FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

26 SEPTEMBER 1983

Lebanon

Cease-Fire — The warring sides in Lebanon have agreed to cease fire and hold a "national dialogue," Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Saudi mediator Prince Bandar ibn Sultan announced late on 25 September at a press conference reported by Damascus radio. The agreement followed contacts between Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi King Fahd, Khaddam disclosed. Confirming the agreement in a statement broadcast by Beirut Radio, Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said the cease-fire would take effect at 0600 local time on 26 September. Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) leader Walid Junblatt called on his fighters to abide by the agreement, the radio reported. All parties were adhering to the cease-fire early on 26 September despite occasional sniper fire, according to a military source cited by Beirut radio.

An official statement detailing the agreement said that arrangements to consolidate the cease-fire will be made by a committee drawn from the Lebanese Army, the Phalangist Lebanese Front, the opposition National Salvation Front (NSF), and the Amal Movement. The statement, which was broadcast by Beirut radio, also noted that the planned national dialogue conference will include NSF leaders Walid Junblatt, Sulayman Franjiyah, and Rashid Karami; Camille Sham'un and Phalangist Party leader Pierre al-Jumayyil for the Lebanese Front; Amal leader Nabih Birri; and three personalities not affiliated with the warring parties — Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil 'Usayran, and Raymond Iddih. President Amin al-Jumayyil will also welcome the presence of Syrian and Saudi delegates at the conference, the statement added. Citing sources in Damascus close to PSP leader Junblatt, Radio Monte Carlo said Al-Jumayyil will preside over the national dialogue conference with some Cabinet members who will be chosen by agreement among all parties. An appendix to the agreement stipulates that the Lebanese Army will deploy along the Damascus road as far as 'Alayh, the radio reported.

The cease-fire announcement followed intensive diplomatic activity over the weekend during which Beirut radio reported that Syria and the NSF had introduced "new obstacles" by demanding that Al-Jumayyil give a prior commitment to abide by the decisions of the national dialogue conference. The president rejected this demand, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. Nevertheless, Saudi Arabia and the United States have pledged to the NSF that they will ensure that the conference resolutions are implemented, Radio Monte Carlo reported.

Weekend Fighting — Heavy shelling continued over the weekend despite repeated reports that a cease-fire was imminent, according to Beirut radio. U.S. Warships shelled artillery emplacements in the Ash-Shuf Mountains late on 23 September and a U.S. Marine was wounded by sniper fire on 25 September, the radio noted. In southern Beirut the Lebanese Army clashed with gunmen in the Al-Murayjah district, the radio reported. Amal gunmen forced Phalangist militia out of Al-Murayjah after "ferocious battles," the clandestine Voice of Arab Lebanon radio asserted on 24 September. However, the Voice of Lebanon subsequently reported that the Army reentered the area after killing or wounding 22 gunmen and pulling down their barricades.

In another development, Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon announced that a Lebanese Air Force Hawker Hunter was downed by a SAM-7 while attempting to attack military positions in the Al-Batrun area on 23 September. In Damascus, the Lebanese National Resistance — an organization which has claimed responsibility for guerrilla attacks on the IDF — issued a statement warning the multinational force that, if its aircraft again strike at targets in Lebanon, the National Resistance will strike at Western interests and civilians in Beirut, Damascus radio reported.

PLO Affairs

Tension increased between the PLO and Syria as Syrian forces besieged Fatah fighters forced to withdraw northward from the Al-Biqa' under Syrian threats, according to North Lebanon Voice of Palestine radio. Syrian tanks and special forces encircled the Fatah units, trained artillery on them, and prevented food and water from passing through their lines, the radio said. The Syrians insist on totally disarming the fighters, a move which is being resisted and which could lead to fighting if continued, sources cited by the radio maintained. PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat told UPI that the PLO will not allow another battle to begin when ferocious fighting is continuing in the Ash-Shuf, the radio reported. An earlier PLO statement broadcast by the radio expressed fears that the siege was linked with a full agreement between Syria and unnamed parties reached without the knowledge or participation of the PLO, while Amman radio linked the Syrian measures with an earlier statement by 'Arafat that PLO forces were extremely close to Israeli military positions and that a resumption of fighting between them could not be ruled out.

In another development, Fatah loyalists clashed with PFLP-General Command and Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine supporters near Tripoli following Syria's warning to 'Arafat supporters in the Al-Biqa' to leave the area, the Voice of Lebanon announced. Meanwhile, 'Arafat continued his tour of PLO units in northern Lebanon, according to Baghdad Voice of PLO radio.

In an interview with the Kuwaiti *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm* cited by KUNA, Fatah opposition leader Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha denied that the dissidents are planning to form an alternative organization to the PLO and praised the conciliation committee meetings with the various parties in the dispute as "fruitful and positive." The committee is continuing its efforts in Damascus to resolve the differences between the opposing groups, KUNA added. Meanwhile, Fatah has formed new security and financial committees to deal with certain "negative behavior" within the organization, Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf declared in an interview with *Filastin al-Muhtallah* cited by KUNA.

Syria

Responding to reports that a Senate subcommittee has approved the cancellation of U.S. aid to Syria because of events in Lebanon, an Economy and Foreign Trade Ministry official said Syria is "surprised" at the decision because the U.S. Government does not in any case extend aid to Syria, Damascus radio reported. The official linked the issue to an "old" plan for U.S. aid which Syria did not use because it considered the attached conditions unfavorable.

Israel

Unity Government Negotiations — Prime Minister-designate Yitzhaq Shamir invited Labor Party Chairman Shi'mon Peres to discuss the formation of a new national unity government, *The Jerusalem Post* reported. Although the Alignment would not join the government as it exists now, the faction would be willing to discuss a new government based on a "joint plan of action" and on specific policies advocated by the Alignment, the paper said. Meanwhile, Mapam threatened to withdraw from the Alignment if the two factions agree on common guidelines, IDF Radio reported.

U.S. Aid Dispute — Defense Minister Moshe Arens has demanded that the Israeli Embassy in Washington withdraw its proposal for the United States to decrease its total military aid to Israel in 1985 in exchange for an increase in grants, Israeli sources in Washington cited by *Ma'ariv* claimed.

Sharon on Israeli Boundaries — Minister Without Portfolio Ari'el Sharon told West Bank settlers in remarks cited by Jerusalem radio that Israel must remember that areas "east of the Jordan River" are part of "Eretz Yisra'el" even though that territory is not currently in Israeli hands.

Gulf States

The GCC member states will hold their first joint military maneuvers 1 October as a prelude to forming a united rapid deployment force to counter possible threats to the Gulf region, UAE Crown Prince Shaykh Khalifa ibn Zayid announced in a statement reported by KUNA. The maneuvers are intended to demonstrate that the Gulf states alone are responsible for security in the region and do not need "foreign patronage, interference, or outside support," the shaykh declared.

Meanwhile, an editorial in the UAE paper *Al-Khalij* warned that the United States will probably "intervene" in the Gulf if the Iran-Iraq conflict escalates and urged the region's states to guard against any interference.

Saudi Arabia

Prince Talal, brother of King Fahd, accepted an invitation from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak to visit Egypt and declared that "Camp David no longer exists," Radio Monte Carlo reported.

In a communique published in Tehran, the "Islamic Revolution Organization of the Arabian Peninsula" urged all citizens in the region to unite against the Saudi rulers, according to IRNA.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Intensive artillery exchanges continued in the northern sector while Iranian forces attacked Iraqi positions between Marivan and Sayyid Sadiq, killing more than 100 Iraqi soldiers and inflicting "considerable damage," according to an Iranian military communique and a Revolution Guards Corps statement broadcast by Tehran radio. An Iraqi communique broadcast by Baghdad radio accused Iran of shelling civilian areas in Sayyid Sadiq but did not mention any Iranian attack.

In a Friday sermon broadcast by Tehran radio, Majlis Speaker 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani reiterated that Iran will not hesitate to block the Strait of Hormuz if Iraqi forces use French Super Etendard planes to threaten Iran's resources and security. This warning was echoed in remarks by Petroleum Minister Mohammad Gharazi and Ground Forces Commander 'Ali Sayyad-Shirazi, according to IRNA and radio reports. Iran is able to "purge" the Gulf of any U.S. fleets sent "for creating havoc" in the region as well as to cap any more damaged oil wells, the petroleum minister asserted. Meanwhile, an official Iraqi spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of the Masses radio admitted that Iran had capped one of the three damaged Nowruz oil wells although an earlier Iraqi statement had denounced the Iranian claim as false.

Iran

In a series of operations against Kurdish rebels, government forces captured the "most impassable heights" in Kordestan and mopped up 35 villages, according to a Hamzeh Seyyed ash-Shohada Headquarters communique broadcast by Tehran radio. Another government patrol in the Shahur Heights killed 40 "counterrevolutionaries" and seized a large amount of arms and ammunition, another radio report announced.

Libya-Chad

The Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) has launched a diplomatic campaign to promote national reconciliation in Chad, GUNT Vice President Abdelkader Kamougue told AFP. The proposal for France and Libya to back an OAU peacekeeping force in Chad "should not meet with any difficulties," the official asserted. Meanwhile, Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi announced in an interview with AFP that Libya is prepared to participate in such a pan-African peacekeeping force as long as it is accepted by the GUNT.

Western Sahara

SDAR Foreign Minister Ibrahim Hakim castigated Morocco's continued refusal to meet with Polisario representatives to discuss a cease-fire in the Western Sahara, APS reported.

Meanwhile, Moroccan Foreign Minister M'hamed Boucetta reiterated Morocco's willingness to consider all solutions to the conflict except those involving direct talks with Polisario, AFP said.

Pakistan

The Sind election authority has postponed elections in some riot-torn towns until 2 October, AFP reported. The antigovernment Movement for the Restoration of Democracy had called for a national strike on election day and was hoping to prevent voters from casting their ballots, AFP said. Meanwhile, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq refused to meet with "subversive elements" but told newsmen he was always willing to confer with "patriotic individuals and parties."

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 187 *26 September 1983*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

PLO Mediation Committee Meets Fatah Leaders *[KUNA]* ..... A 1
Syrians Ask Fatah To Withdraw From Lebanon ..... A 1
Syrians Reported Arresting Fatah Commanders *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Loyalists Submit to Syrian Ultimatum *[Beirut Voice of Lebanon]* ..... A 1
    Troops 'Evacuated By Force' ..... A 1
    Further on Withdrawal *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 2
    Official Confirms Withdrawal ..... A 2
    Palestinian Command Statement *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 2
Yasir 'Arafat Interviewed on Deportation *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 2
Syrian Forces 'Besieging' Palestinians *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 4
    Syrian Activities Detailed *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 4
    Further on Syrian 'Siege' *[North Lebanon VOP]* ..... A 4
Clashes Reported in Al-Barid Palestinian Camp *[Beirut Voice Of Lebanon]* ..... A 5
Palestinians Urged To Fight Israelis, U.S. *[Baghdad VOP]* ..... A 5
'Arafat Discusses Lebanon, Fatah, UN Visit *[AT TADAMON 23 Sep]* ..... A 6
Abu Musa Cited on U.S. Stance, Shamir *[AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM 25 Sep]* ..... A 6
Fatah Forms Security, Financial Bodies *[FILISTAN AL-MUHTALLAH 24 Sep]* ..... A 7
DFLP Warns French Against Collusion With U.S. *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... A 7

ARABIAN PENINSULA

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC States Plan Military Maneuvers 1 October ..... C 1

BAHRAIN

Qatari Heir Apparent Arrives On Official Visit ..... C 1
    Amir Receives Al Thani ..... C 1
Amir Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi ..... C 1

KUWAIT

Lebanese Cease-Fire Agreement Welcomed ..... C 1
Deputy Premier on GCC Security Agreement, Mideast *[AL-QABUS 25 Sep]* ..... C 1
Interior Minister Views Regional Affairs *[AL-QABUS]* ..... C 2

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Bandar Awaits Positive Cease-Fire Results *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... C 3

UAE

Gulf Airliner Crashes 23 September; 112 Killed ..... C 3
    Victims' Nationalities Listed ..... C 3
AL-KHALIJ Warns of Possible U.S. Gulf Intervention ..... C 3

PDRY

Foreign Minister Eyes Gulf War, Relations *[Tehran ETTELA'AT]* ..... C 3

Chairman Cables YAR President, Prime Minister .... C 4

YAR

PDRY Officials Arrive in San'a' 25 September .... C 4
Libyan, Soviet Delegations Arrive in San'a' .... C 5
President Speaks on Revolution Anniversary .... C 5

EGYPT

President Mubarak Leaves for Paris 26 September .... D 1
  Previews French, U.S. Visits *[MAY]* .... D 1
Mubarak Receives Lebanese Economy Minister .... D 1
'Ali Explains Egyptian Stand on Lebanon .... D 1
FRG's Helmut Schmidt confers With Officials .... D 2
  President Mubarak .... D 2
  Foreign Minister 'Ali .... D 2
Mubarak on People's Assembly October Session .... D 2
Mubarak Briefs NDP Deputies on Policy Lines .... D 2
Interior Minister Discusses Emergency Law *[AKHBAR AL-YAWM]* .... D 3
Al-Jihad Organization Members Arrested .... D 3

IRAQ

Communiques Report 22-25 Sep War Operations .... E 1
  Communique No 1,226 .... E 1
  Communique No 1,227 .... E 1
  Communique No 1,228 .... E 1
Ahvaz Front Official Threatens Increased Activity .... E 2
Spokesman Reports on Iranian Oilfield Fires .... E 2
President Addresses Citizens on War With Iran .... E 2
Saudi King Reiterates Support for War Effort .... E 2
President Gives Al-Jumayyil Views on Lebanon War .... E 2
Foreign Minister Arrives in N.Y. for UN Session .... E 3

JORDAN

Newspapers Comment on Cease-Fire in Lebanon .... F 1
British Defense Academy Delegation Continues Visit .... F 2
  Meets Information Minister .... F 2
  Chief of Staff's Reception .... F 2
  Hasan Receives Delegation .... F 2
Foreign Minister Leaves for UN Session .... F 2
Hasan Ibrahim Receives PLO Officials 24 Sep *[SAWT ASH-SHA'B 25 Sep]* .... F 2
PSP Forces in Lebanon To Receives Medical Aid *[AR-RA'Y 25 Sep]* .... F 3

LEBANON

Beirut Announces Cease-Fire Agreement 25 Sep .... G 1
Reagan Congratulates Al-Jumayyil on Cease-Fire .... G 1
Bandar, Khaddam Announce Agreement To End War .... G 1
  Further on Announcement .... G 1
Saudi King Telephones Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan .... G 2
Beirut: Official Statement on Agreement Clauses .... G 2
SPA Report on Agreement; Bandar Statement .... G 2
Monte Carlo: Socialist Source on Agreement .... G 3
Junblatt Orders Forces to Observe Cease-Fire .... G 3
Al-Wazzan Announces Cease-Fire Agreement .... G 3
VOL Reports Minor Cease-Fire Violations .... G 4
  Beirut: Cease-Fire Holding .... G 4
Israeli Planes Overfly Beirut 26 September .... G 4

- Reaction to Cease-Fire Agreement, Talks ..... G 4
  - AN-NAHAR Article ..... G 4
  - RFL Criticizes Agreement ..... G 5
- Al-Jumayyil Notes Soviet Presence in Lebanon *[Radio Free Lebanon]* ..... G 6
- Late Report: Al-Wazzan Offers Resignation ..... G 6
  - Al-Wazzan Statement ..... G 6

SYRIA

- Damascus Announces Cease-Fire Agreement in Lebanon ..... H 1
- King Fahd Telephones Al-Asad on Agreement ..... H 1
- Prince Bandar Thanks Al-Asad for Efforts Toward Pact ..... H 2
- Official Source Denies Reports on 3-Way Summit *[Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 2
- AL-BA'TH Views Lebanese National Accord Attempts ..... H 2
- APC Meeting Urges Arabs To Strike at U.S. Interests ..... H 2
- U.S. Policy, Stands Analyzed, Denounced ..... H 3
  - Damascus TV Commentary ..... H 3
  - Damascus Radio Commentary ..... H 4
- 'Responsible' Source Reacts to U.S. Decision on Aid ..... H 4
- Soviet Friendship Delegation Arrives 23 September ..... H 5

ISRAEL

- Action Planned Against PLO if Suq al-Gharb Falls *[HA'ARETZ 25 Sep]* ..... I 1
- Lebanon Cease-Fire Welcomed; No Official Comment ..... I 1
  - Ben-Me'ir on Cease-Fire ..... I 1
- Junblatt, Al-Fahum Address Golan Druze Gathering *[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Sep]* ..... I 1
  - Moderate Golan Druze Reaction ..... I 1
- Defense Ministry Denies Arms Supply to Druze ..... I 2
- Druze Contacts Continue Despite 'Broken Promises' *[HATZOFE 25 Sep]* ..... I 2
- Phalangist Emissary Seeks Reassurance of Support *[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Sep]* ..... I 2
- Syrian Status in Lebanon Seen as 'Legitimized' *[MA'ARIV 23 Sep]* ..... I 3
- Arens Demands Embassy Withdraw Aid Request *[MA'ARIV 25 Sep]* ..... I 4
  - Finance Minister to Washington *[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Sep]* ..... I 5
  - Increased U.S. Aid Seen *[HA'ARETZ 25 Sep]* ..... I 5
- Herzog Calls for Quick Agreement on Government *[THE JERUSALEM POST 25 Sep]* ..... I 5
- Labor States Terms for Entering Shamir Government *[THE JERUSALEM POST 26 Sep]* ..... I 5
  - MAPAM Rejects Unity Government ..... I 6
  - Peres, Shamir To Meet ..... I 6
- Majority Favors National Unity Government *[HA'ARETZ 26 Sep]* ..... I 6

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

- President Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy ..... Q 1
- Angolan Defense Minister Colonel Tonha Arrives ..... Q 1

LIBYA

- Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Meets With Counterpart *[TANJUG]* ..... Q 1
  - Makes Statement, Departs ..... Q 1
- Romanian President's Envoy Departs 25 September ..... Q 1
- Al-'Ubaydi Rejects Libyan Dialogue With Habre ..... Q 1
- Jabir Leaves for YAR With Message 25 Sep ..... Q 2
- JANA Reports Coup Attempt in Zaire Foiled ..... Q 2
- JANA Editor Criticizes Reduced U.S. Aid ..... Q 2

MOROCCO

- King Hassan Receives UAE President 23 September ..... Q 2

King Hassan Receives Libyan Justice Secretary *[JANA]* ..... Q 3
King Hassan Leaves for UN Session 25 September ..... Q 3
Boucetta on Saharan Issue, Bush Visit ..... Q 3
[London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT 21 Sep]

SUDAN

Numayri Pardons All Convicted Prisoners ..... Q 3
Government Officials Sworn In Before Numayri ..... Q 3
Numayri's Envoy Carries Messages to Arab Leaders ..... Q 4

TUNISIA

Es-Sebsi Consults With Maghreb Colleagues *[L'ACTION 15 Sep]* ..... Q 4
Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Arrives Bearing Message ..... Q 4
Tunis Cites Chedli Klibi on French Role in Lebanon ..... Q 4

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Foreign Minister on Adjourned OAU Meeting *[APS]* ..... Q 4

EAST AFRICA

ETHIOPIA

Delegation Departs for Bulgaria, SFRY 24 Sep ..... R 1
Eritrean Radio Reports TPLF Battle Successes *[Voice of the Broad Masses]* ..... R 1

KENYA

Visiting Nigerian Foreign Minister Cited on OAU ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CHAD

Minister Returns From West African Tour, Comments *[SUNA]* ..... S 1
Bardai Radio on Goukouni Negotiation Proposal ..... S 1
AFP Interviews GUNT Vice President Kamougue ..... S 1
    Further Kamougue Remarks ..... S 2

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso in Paris Discusses Events in Chad ..... S 2
    Press Luncheon Remarks ..... S 2
    Radio International Interview *[Paris]* ..... S 2
    Further on Interview ..... S 3

RWANDA

Foreign Minister Receives Chadian Delegation ..... S 3

ZAIRE

MPR Central Committee Session Concludes ..... S 4
    Mobutu Speech ..... S 4
    Resolutions Adopted ..... S 4

WEST AFRICA

BENIN

- Upper Voltan Delegation Visits; Sankara To Visit T 1

GUINEA

- Toure Returns From Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia Visits T 1

LIBERIA

- Doe Leaves for Visit to U.S., France T 1
- Assembly Chairman Says No Delay in Civilian Rule T 1

MALI

- Traore Receives Libyan Official, PRC Ambassador T 2
- Libyan-Donated TV Station Inaugurated in Bamako T 2

NIGER

- Reportage on Visit of Upper Voltan President T 2
  - Declaration on Visit T 2
  - Reporters Question Sankara, Kountche *[Ouagadougou]* T 3
  - Communique on Visit Issued T 4

NIGERIA

- Shagari Says Africans Can Resolve Chad T 5
- Reportage on House, Senatorial Elections T 5
  - NPN Takes 41 Seats T 5
  - NPN Wins One Seat T 5
  - UPN Wins 10 Seats T 5

UPPER VOLTA

- Sankara Speech on Soldiers, Women's Rights T 6

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

- Security Minister Attends Cabinda FAPLA Meeting U 1
- 60 UNITA Members Killed; Train Derailed U 1
- ANGOP Rejects Amnesty International Criticism U 1

LESOTHO

- Ministers Brief Journalists on Refugee Situation U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

- Resistance Movement Releases 2 Soviet Captives U 2
- 16 Captured 'Bandits' Presented to Journalists U 2
  - RSA 'Involvement' Confirmed U 2
  - Further Details U 3
- South African Captured; Sabotage Suspected U 3
- Soviet, Other Messages Hail Revolution Day U 3
- Delegation Returns From GDR Commission Session U 3

Netherlands Aid Delegation Departs After Talks ..... U 4
Irrigation Project Land Opened for Crops ..... U 4

SOUTH AFRICA

Squatters Clash With Police Near Cape Town *[Umtata]* ..... U 4
    Calm Restored ..... U 4
UDF Issues Statement on Ban Order, Constitution ..... U 5
Roman Catholic Bishops Reject New Constitution ..... U 5

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Concludes Western Tour, Returns to Country ..... U 5
    Affirms No Israeli Ties ..... U 5
    Criticizes Western Press ..... U 5
    Further Harvard Remarks ..... U 6
    Assails UK Government ..... U 6
    Further UK Criticism ..... U 6
Radio Truth Reports Conference on Elections ..... U 7

PLO Mediation Committee Meets Fatah Leaders

LD231758 Kuwait KUNA in English 1712 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, Sep 23 (KUNA) — The Palestinian mediation committee, set up by the Palestinian Central Council to heal the rift within the mainstream Fatah commando movement, met here Friday with some members of Fatah Central Committee including Faruq Qaddumi and Muhammad Ghunaym.

The mediation committee, chaired by Ibrahim Bakr, later conferred with breakaway leaders Nimr Salih and Samih Khadri. According to informed sources the meetings discussed the reply given by both parties to the dispute on the memorandum presented by the committee, including its recommendations to patch up inter-Fatah differences. Efforts are now focused, the sources added, on resolving certain impediments such as reconciling the views of the two parties on composition of an interim committee which will supervise organizational, financial, and military matters pending convocation of a general congress for the Fatah movement.

The mediation committee also met with Syrian Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam "to discuss current developments in the area, particularly at the Palestinian and Lebanese levels," according to the sources. They concluded that following assessment of both parties' reply, the mediation committee will announce its final stand on the dispute within Fatah.

Syrians Ask Fatah To Withdraw From Lebanon

JN231856 Amman Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1825 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The PLO office in Amman issued a statement this evening in which it said that at 1600 today the commander of the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' summoned Fatah officers there and asked them to withdraw all Fatah forces from all areas in Shtawrah, Sa'd Nayil, and Ta'nayil to the Al-Hirmil area within 1 hour; otherwise he would use force to remove them. He said that they should only take their light weapons with them. The commander massed a large number of Syrian tanks around Palestinian bases there.

Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has sent a cable to the Fatah Central Committee members in Damascus and the PLO representative there asking them to use their good offices with the Syrian authorities in order to cancel this Syrian demand, particularly at this difficult time in which Lebanon and the Palestinian forces are threatened.

Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, has sent cables to the Saudi leaders and to the Arab League secretary general to this effect. 'Arafat asked the Saudi leadership, in its capacity as the mediator for cease-fire in Lebanon, to clarify the extent of the connection between the sudden Syrian demand and the agreement which is to be implemented for a cease-fire in Lebanon. 'Arafat said: If this demand is within the agreement, we as a Palestinian leadership are not aware of this. No coordination to this effect has taken place with us. He demanded [Saudi] intervention to cancel this demand, pointing out that the current Lebanese situation is extremely serious.

Syrians Reported Arresting Fatah Commanders

NC240606 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0527 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] According to information available to the Voice of Lebanon, Syrian forces have arrested Ziyad al-Atrash, general commander of the Fatah forces loyal to Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]. They have also arrested the commander of the Al-Jarmaq Brigade. The Syrians have also issued an ultimatum to the Palestinians that they should hand over those who opened fire on the Syrian forces in Ta'lbaya. The ultimatum expired last night. Extreme tension prevails in the area between Ta'lbaya and [placename indistinct].

'Arafat Loyalists Submit to Syrian Ultimatum

NC241135 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Our correspondent in Al-Biqa' reports that Palestinian gunmen loyal to 'Arafat in Ta'lbaya, Shtawrah, Jdita, and Sa'd Nayil submitted to the Syrian ultimatum to evacuate the area. At dawn today they began assembling in front of the Star Building in Ta'lbaya. At 1000 today, the gunmen withdrew in convoys via the Dar Zaynun road in the direction of the Al-Hirmil area, as specified in the Syrian ultimatum. Our correspondent adds that Syrian special units led by Colonel Jadi Sa'id took over the evacuated positions.

Troops 'Evacuated By Force'

JN241258 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Beirut — Reports from Beirut say that a few hours ago the Syrian forces assembled the pro-'Arafat Fatah forces stationed in Al-Biqa' and evacuated them by force to northern Lebanon. The reports add that the Syrian forces also detained Ziyad al-Atrash, general commander of the Fatah forces in Al-Biqa', and the commander of the Al-Jarmaq Brigade. The PLO had announced last night that the Syrian forces in Al-Biqa' had asked the Fatah forces stationed in Al-Biqa' to withdraw from their positions to Al-Hirmil north of the city of Tripoli within 1 hour; otherwise they would be compelled to use force to evacuate them.

It is noteworthy that the Syrian measure against the Fatah forces in Al-Biqa' has come 1 day after PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat's announcement to the U.S. CBS television network that he had inspected Palestinian fighters on the front last Tuesday and was only 300 meters away from Israeli military positions. 'Arafat also said that he did not rule out the possibility of the resumption of battles and resistance activities against the Israeli forces near Al-Awwali River.

Further on Withdrawal

JN241826 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1720 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] PLO spokesman Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman announced today that the Syrian Army has asked about 1,000 Palestinian fighters belonging to the Fatah movement to withdraw from their positions in Al-Biqa' to Al-Hirmil, northeastern Lebanon. He added that the Syrian order reached Tripoli without any clarifications. On the other hand, the PLO issued a statement in Amman yesterday pointing out that the Syrian tanks had encircled Palestinian positions in Al-Biqa' and asked the fighters to leave these positions within 1 hour. Otherwise, the Syrians said, the Army would evacuate them by force.

Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman said that Yasir 'Arafat had sent messages to Saudi Arabia and to Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi with the aim of making the Syrians cancel their decision, but this move did not achieve anything. A short while ago, the official spokesman for the Palestinian revolution's general command said that this command was surprised by the Syrian orders that stipulated a withdrawal from the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah-Ba'labakk triangle and the detention of the commanders of the Palestinian military forces in the area without any justification. He also said that all the contacts the revolution's command had held with Damascus and the Syrian military command were fruitless. The spokesman also said that the revolution's command had asked the field commands to avoid any clash with the Syrian forces and to withdraw toward Al-Hirmil, but these commands were surprised by new obstacles in the Al-Jibab-Al-Humr area. The Syrian tanks were still surrounding the Palestinian forces, whose vanguards had reached Al-Hirmil. The spokesman also expressed fear that an agreement might be reached behind the Palestinian revolution's back on the military presence in Al-Biqa'.

Official Confirms Withdrawal

JN242128 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2110 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Najib al-Ahmad, director of the Palestinian revolution's commander in chief's office in Amman, has stated that following the failure of the mediation efforts to keep the Fatah movement's forces in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley, the Palestinian leadership has ordered its forces to withdraw from there to the Al-Hirmil area. He further said that the withdrawal took place as the Syrian tanks were roving the area. Al-Ahmad added that the situation there is very dangerous.

Palestinian Command Statement

NC242132 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Statement issued by official spokesman for Palestinian revolution forces general command; date not given — announcer-read]

[Text] The Palestinian revolution command was surprised yesterday by a set of orders issued by the Syrian general staff and the Syrian military command in the Al-Biqa' area. These orders stipulated the need for evacuating the Fatah movement forces from the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah-Ba'labakk triangle. These orders were immediately implemented by the Syrian military command in the Al-Biqa'. Without preludes, Colonel Ghazi Kan'an, Syrian intelligence official in the Al-Biqa', summoned Lieutenant Colonel Ziyad al-Atrash, Major Marwan, and Major Abu Ahmad Isma'il and informed them of the decision to detain them. He then summoned Lieutenant Colonel Bakr Yusuf, commander of the Al-Yarmuk forces, and informed him that it was necessary to evacuate all the military forces of the Fatah movement from the Al-Biqa' area to the Al-Hirmil area — and only with their individual weapons. Colonel Ghazi Kan'an gave an illogical and unacceptable justification for this demand. Consequently, squadrons of Syrian tanks and infantry troops moved and took up positions around the Fatah bases in the Al-Biqa' area.

The Palestinian revolution command has held several contacts with Damascus and with the Syrian military command in the Al-Biqa' (?to postpone) the matter until political contacts take place. However, all these contacts were to no avail. On the contrary, our forces received a warning to immediately evacuate within 1 hour. Failure to do so would result in the process being carried out through the force of arms. The Palestinian revolution command issued directives to the field commands to evade any clash or tension with the Syrian forces. The revolution command asked the commands to effect a withdrawal toward Al-Hirmil in order to avert any possible clash. However, these forces — which had begun withdrawing since dawn today, escorted by Syrian tanks and infantry troops — were surprised with new obstacles in the Al-Hirmil area. The Syrian tanks are still surrounding these forces, whose advance parties have arrived in the Al-Hirmil area, while the other units are still on their way to the area.

We express fear that an armed clash will occur between our forces and the Syrian forces in the area of Al-Jibal al-Humr, where the Syrian tanks are still besieging our forces. We see serious matters in these developments, which are not only confined to premeditated intentions against our military forces and against our military presence. We fear that a full agreement has been reached behind the back of the Palestinian revolution concerning the Palestinian military presence in the Al-Biqa' area. We believe that the evacuation of our military forces from the areas of contact with the Zionist enemy and his agents has many meanings the historic responsibility for which will be borne by the forces that are conspiring against the Palestinian revolution and are seeking to implement suspicious designs.

Yasir 'Arafat Interviewed on Deportation

NC260930 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0600 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text of interview given by PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, identified by his nom de guerre Abu 'Ammar, to UPI on 25 September — read by announcer]

[Text] Question: What is your comment on the siege of the Fatah fighters in the al-Hirmil area?

Answer: Our fighters moved to this area upon an official request by the Syrian command following a 4-month siege that was imposed on our fighters in Shtawrah and Kafr Zabad.

Question: In your opinion, what is the aim of this Syrian demand which dictates the transfer of the Fatah fighters from Al-Biqa' to Al-Hirmil?

Answer: Let us wait and see.

Question: What is your comment?

Answer: No comment now; the event is too grave to be commented on.

Question: Why did you accept this?

Answer: Because it is impermissible to allow another battle to begin at this delicate time when the mountain battles are raging ferociously and when U.S. and Israeli threats are increasing against the Palstinian revolution.

Question: Has the decision taken you by surprise?

Answer: Yes. It is our right to ask whether this decision falls within the context of the ongoing agreement [al-itifaqiyah al-jariyah].

Question: What about a cease-fire agreement among the sides in Lebanon?

Answer: The on-going agreement is general, and the cease-fire agreement would be part of the general agreement.

Question: What would the role of the PLO be in the event a cease-fire agreement is reached?

Answer: We will assist the Lebanese to reach a national accord under which there neither will be a victor nor a vanquished, I mean the slogan that had regrettably been raised after our departure from Beirut.

Question: How can the PLO assist the Lebanese to reach such an accord?

Answer: We have not much to give now. But we are quite prepared to offer all our efforts and capabilities even under the concerted U.S. and Israeli threats against us. Even President Reagan attacked the PLO and the Palestinians yesterday, as did Shultz.

Question: Has the Marines' fire hit the Palestinian positions in the mountain?

Answer: Let us leave such topics for our Lebanese allies to comment on. They are the sole side entitled to give statements on this subject.

Question: Are the Fatah fighters participating in the mountain battles?

Answer: The Palestinians did not participate in any inter-Lebanese dispute. Our forces are in the mountain because they actually were there before the withdrawal of the Israeli enemy forces to the Al-Awwali River. Our forces had always participated within the framework of the joint Palestinian-Lebanese forces in the successful war of attrition against the Israeli forces and positions. This war had compelled the Israelis to withdraw their forces to the Al-Awwali River as a result of their mounting losses in the daily military operations launched by the joint forces. These operations have also forced Begin to resign. This was admitted by his closest friends. As for us, we know that our basic duty is to hunt down the Israeli occupation forces wherever they may be.

As for the U.S. Marines, let it be known that their threats can never intimidate us. Everyone should remember that the Israeli forces attacked us for 88 days with U.S. approval and unlimited aid of the most modern weapons. This is not to mention the other wars which were actually U.S. wars launched by the Israeli army.

Question: Does the Palestinian revolution feel it is directly threatened by the presence of the U.S. Marines in Lebanon?

Answer: Direct U.S. threats have been made by Reagan, his secretary of State Shultz, and the White House spokesmen, not to mention the threats made by a number of Israeli military commanders against the Palestinian revolution.

Question: What is the real aim behind the presence of the Marines in Lebanon?

Answer: There is a U.S.-Israeli plot currently under implementation to partition Lebanon into sectarian areas as a prelude to balakanizing the area and dividing it into 21 sectarian statelets. Regrettably, our Arab nation has not yet realized the danger threatening it as a result of this grave criminal scheme. But it should be made known that the volcano, which erupted in Beirut durign the epic of steaadfastness against the invaders and their U.S. mentors, will not calm down. We are following up the effects of this volcano inside Israeli society and on the entire area, as well as on world peace.

Question: Where have Palestinian-Syrian relations reached, particularly after the recent measures to (?vacate) the Palestinian revolution forces from the Al-Biqa'?

Answer: We regret this unjustified and incomprehensible step by the Syrian leadership, especially because the ferocious fighting is raging in the mountain.

Question: Have you asked for an official Syrian explanation of this step?

Answer: Of course we have asked. But we have not yet received an answer.

Question: Are the current events an attempt to restrict the Palestinian revolution forces in the north and to prevent them from moving?

Answer: Perhaps this is one of the step's objectives. But we should wait and see.

Question: Will they be trying in the long run to vacate the Palestinian resistance from Lebanon?

Answer: We should take all possibilities into account.

Question: Are you going to resist that?

[Announcer says 'Arafat did not answer this quetion]

Question: What would be the Palestinian revolution's demand concerning the Palestinians in Lebanon in the event a general agreement is reached?

Answer: We will ask for the implementation of all the agreements that were reached betwen us and the Lebanese Government before our departure from Beirut. These agreements were signed between us and both [former] President Sarkis and Prime Minister al-Wazzan. These agreements were also signed by the ministerial committee and the then National Salvation Committee.

Question: Have all these agreements remain unimplemented?

Answer: Yes.

Question: Will the Prgoressive Socialist Party ask for implementing all these agreements within the framework of the ongoing talks?

Answer: You can ask Walid Junblatt about this subject.

Question: Is there any hope of improving the Palestinian status on the Lebanese arena?

Answer: We are trying within the limit of our capabilities to achieve this. A PLO commission has been formed to follow up this subject.

Syrian Forces 'Besieging' Palestinians

JN251137 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Palestinian news agency WAFA says that since yesterday morning, the Syrian forces have been besieging the Palestinian forces which were forced to leave the areas of the mountain, Shtawrah, Ta'labaya, Sa'd Nayil, and Jdita, adding that Syrian tanks, infantry, and special units are completely surrounding these forces, preventing them from moving, and threatening to fire at them. WAFA adds that all contacts with the Syrian command in Damascus and Al-Hirmil have failed, and that the situation in this area is deteriorating and threatening to explode.

Syrian Activities Detailed

NC251928 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text]Syrian forces deported the families of the fighters from the Al-Biqa' area to the Al-Hirmil area this morning. Meanwhile, these forces continued to besiege our forces which were forced to leave the frontlines in the mountain and Al-Biqa' to Jibab al-Humr in the Al-Hirmil area.

Syrian tanks, infantry soldiers, and special units are completely encircling our forces, preventing them from moving under the threat of opening fire. Our fighters are endeavoring to avoid any clash. All contacts with the Syrian command in Damascus and Al-Hirmil have failed so far. The situation in the area is becoming increasingly tense. The latest reports from the Al-Hirmil area say that the Syrian forces are preventing the arrival of foodstuffs and water to the fighters. They are also asking them to surrender their weapons.

Further on Syrian 'Siege'

NC251934 North Lebanon Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] For the third day the Syrian forces have continued their siege of the Fatah forces in [words indistinct] in Jibab al-Humr area without allowing these forces to make any movement at a time when the situation has become increasingly grave, threatening an imminent clash. Palestinian military sources have stated that all contacts held so far with the Syrian authorities have failed. The Palestinian revolution command has not received any explanation for the reasons behind the deportation of these forces or their encirclement of that completely isolated area. The Syrian authorities are still maintaining silence about this grave matter.

The Palestinian sources added that the commanders of the besieged forces do not yet know what is required of them. However, some fighters who have broken the siege indicated that scores of tanks are surrounding them in the area and that 130-mm artillery batteries have been trained on our forces' positions. There are persistent attempts by the Syrian side to disarm the Palestinian fighters. However, these forces have clear orders not to surrender their weapons. The Palestinian sources affirmed that under this Syrian military pressure the besieged forces have been compelled to take combat positions in anticipation of any dramatic developments which may occur. The sources added that the orders to the commanders of the besieged forces are clear; namely, to avoid a clash. However, the Syrian insistence on disarming the fighters will lead to an inevitable clash for which we will not be responsible.

On the other hand, these sources noted that these developments have affirmed the truth about the plans directed against the Fatah movement, the backbone of the Palestinian revolution, especially since the Syrians have only deported the Fatah forces from the mountain areas and the Al-Masna'-Shtawrah-Ba'labakk triangle. We know that the dissidents have failed in implementing the plan to strike at and liquidate the Fatah movement. These steps have come to complete the plan.

Concluding, the sources said that scores of women and children are with the fighters. We expect that the Syrians will force them to spend their third night in the open air now that they have deprived these forces and families of foodstuffs and drinking water.

Clashes Reported in Al-Barid Palestinian Camp

NC250904 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0815 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Clashes in which rocket fire was used took place last night in the Al-Barid Camp between supporters of 'Arafat and groups from the PFLP-GC and the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. This came in the wake of Syria's warning to the 'Arafat supporters to leave the Shtawrah area. Informed security sources expect the situation to develop in the Palestinian camps and in areas where the Palestinians are present, especially in Tripoli.

Palestinians Urged To Fight Israelis, U.S.

JN241805 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1639 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Any observer watching the developments of the U.S. involvement in Lebanon is likely to believe that Lebanon has suddenly become one of the American states. It seems that the U.S. Administration has become convinced that Lebanon is indeed an American states or colony. Accordingly, the U.S. Administration — in line with its own concpets, philosophy, and visualization — has the right to deal with the fate of this state or colony in any way it likes and in harmony with its imperialist interests. All indications, evidence, and realities confirm what has been said. The U.S. forces roam freely in Lebanon under the cover of the so-called multinational forces. U.S. barges, aircraft carriers, and warplanes take positions in the Mediterranean, directing their guns and shells at the Lebanese people. They are in Lebanon to implement a declared U.S. objective: to support the so-called Lebanese legitimacy, represented by the existing political regime, and the military institution, represented by the Lebanese Army.

The first question that comes to mind for any observer watching all these events may be: What authority has given the United States the right to interfere directly in the internal affairs concerning Lebanon and the Lebanese people? Could it be that absolute divine right that once reigned in the Middle Ages? By what right does the United States impose itself on a country, whose problem can only be resolved through a democracy that will enable all the Lebanese to elect their real representatives and establish the political system that suits them? This happens at a time when the United States itself claims that it is the protector of democracy and the godfather of human rights.

As we say this, we recall a group of facts we find necessary to outline: First, the United States realizes very well that there has been no census in Lebanon since the forties. Everyone knows, including the United States of course, that a population's census and nature are the fundemental factors in any modern democratic state.

Second, the Lebanese Army belongs to only one faction of the people. No military institution can be called a national army unless all the people's factions and forces are represented in this army, which is supposed to serve the interests of all the people and not those of only one faction.

Third, the United States is massing its fleets and forces in Lebanon in order to bring about a clear objective that has become known to everyone; namely to prevent any opportunity for understanding and reconciliation among the various Lebanese parties to reach new grounds for the reestablishment of a new democratic Lebanon, far from any sectarianism which has been fed for so long by the colonialist countries, beginning with France and ending with the United States through its hireling, Israel.

Under these irregular conditions created by the United States, through its support and encouragement for the Israeli invasion of Lebanon, the U.S. Administration's statements, issued every now and then, disclose the pillars of the U.S. system and the reality of its objectives. These objectives completing what was started with the Israeli invasion in the summer of 1982; namely, to expel the PLO from Lebanon and to make good the threat to liquidate it because the Palestinian presence in Lebanon confuses the Lebanese equation and prevents the achievement of stability, as Washington claims.

President Reagan's recent statements explicitly disclosed the reality of the aforementioned objectives. He claimed that the PLO forces' presence in Lebanon and their participation in the fighting violate the agreements according to which these forces left Beirut. Everyone knows that the U.S. Administration itself was the first to step on all agreements when it planned for the Sabra and Shatila massacres and, recently, when it used the multinational force in a manner that contradicts the original role of this force. Therefore, the Palestinian armed presence in Lebanon has become a target to the operations and the guns of U.S. forces as was made clear in Reagan's threats.

What we would like to reconfirm here is that the PLO forces are indeed present in Lebanon. Yes, they are there with all their combat power. These forces will stay in Lebanon as long as there is one Israeli or one U.S. soldier in Lebanon. The PLO forces will fight against the U.S.-Israeli presence in Lebanon with all the power available to them. The PLO forces are responsible only to the Lebanese people's legitimate authority, an authority that will not be attained except through a comprehensive Lebanese accord among all the parties concerned. This accord will never be achieved as long as the Israeli occupation of Lebanon continues, as long as the U.S. forces and their warplanes are directed against the Lebanese people, and as long as some sides continue to collaborate with the Zionist occupation and depend on the presence of the Zionist and U.S. forces' to strike at the Lebanese Nationalist Movement's parties.

The U.S. Administration's political disdain in the region will cause the worst harm to U.S. interests. We say this with absolute confidence. The peoples are used to sacrificing. Therefore, the United States has to stop its disdain and arrogance and, instead, contribute to spreading stability in this region. It can start by withdrawing its forces and those of its hireling, Israel, from Lebanon and by working to bring about a just settlement to the Palestinian issue — a settlement that guarantees the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, which have been endorsed and recognized by all the world states except for the United States and its proteges.

'Arafat Discusses Lebanon, Fatah, UN Visit

LD231241 Kuwait KUNA in English 1054 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] London, Sep (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has warned of a conspiracy to partition Lebanon as a preliminary to "Balkanization" of the area. In an exclusive interview with the London-based Arabic weekly *At-Tadamon* published Friday, 'Arafat said that as the leader of the Palestinian revolution he placed himself totally at the disposal of the Lebanees people to oppose the partition plot. He appealed to all Lebanese factions, especially those who fought on his side, "to be aware of the danger that is on our borders in these bad times for the Arabs".

"What is happening in Lebanon does not only concern the Lebanese, as they have given the Palestinian cause their blood and all that is dearest to them," he stressed. He pointed out that there was an American-Israeli conspiracy in Lebanon together with "some Arab parties" aimed at the partition of Lebanon.

There was no solution in Lebanon unless all the parties "ignore the rule of the victor and the vanquished" because it was unacceptable that there should be victor and vanquished in Lebanon. The solution in Lebanon could be none other than a wise national dialogue with the participation of all parties on the same level, "without any complex of victor and vanquished," 'Arafat went on. Otherwise the Israelis would not [as received] stay there and would not leave, and the process of partition would start, he warned.

On the latest developments within the Fatah ranks, the Palestinian leader said it was clear that what happened was an external conspiracy, and an attempt to take control of the movement and divide the ranks of the Palestinian revolution. But the conspiracy had failed, "despite the fact that it exhausted us because behind the move was an efficient Arab force, politically, militarily, and geographically," he went on.

'Arafat added that the Palestinian forces were now facing American, Israeli, and Arab threats, and he asked, "Is this how history and glory are made?"

Regarding the next Arab summit in Riyadh 'Arafat noted that he was not expecting much from it. He recalled that during the Fes summit there was an agreement made in the presence of all the Arab leaders, but that Arab differences later dismantled the summit and the unanimity shown dring the meeting.

On the possibility of his visiting New York to deliver a speech to the UN General Assembly, he said that Indian Prime Minister Indira Ghandi had sent an invitation to him. Such an invitation, he said, was now being studied by the Palestinian leadership. It would depend on to what extent the American Administration was prepared to take the necessary security precautions, similar to those measures taken when he visited the UN in 1974.

Abu Musa Cited on U.S. Stance, Shamir

LD251431 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0741 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Sep (KUNA) — Colonel Sa'id Musa Muragha [Abu Musa], leader of the opposition in the Fatah movement, denied that his movement intends to set up an alternative organization to succeed the Palestine Liberation Organization backed by Syria. In an interview with *Ar-Ra'y al-'Amm*, published today, he said that meetings with the mediation committee, set up by the Central Council, were fruitful and positive, and that a reply to its proposals will be submitted by his group soon. He said that he is prepared to talk and to meet for the well-being of our people and our cause. His group rejects horsetrading with our rights or relinquishing the charter of the organization.

He criticized the American stance. He said that the United States was taking part in the Lebanese war with another side. He said that if America gets embroiled in the war, then "a Lebanese Vietnam" will take place. He warned the American forces against continuing their intervention. Such an action will only turn the table on the White Hosue and those who live in it as we are prepared to come to grips with America and its tools in the region. It is not any different for us to fight an Israeli or an American soldier, since all of them work within the frame of a plan drawn by the Pentagon and the White House in [word indistinct].

Abu Musa highly praised the stance of the National Salvation Front. He said that the role of Walid Junblatt is patriotic and enjoys the respect of (?all nationalist) parties. He said that this front is carrying out its duty to defend its national dignity and basic rights. We, as a Palestinian revolution, consider that this demands the backing of Nationalist Forces against those forces which seek to impose control over the Lebanese people.

Abu Musa praised the posture of Syria and Libya in confronting the danger challenging the Arab nation. He said that Syria's stance today, under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, as well as that of Libya — to place its forces at the command of President al-Asad — are positive and patriotic stances.

He underlined what is happening in Lebanon. He said that it is a Lebanese-Lebanese struggle and not a Palestinian-Lebanese struggle. However, "we consider that the Salvation Front has a basic right in the struggle and we sympathize and back this struggle with all we possess."

When the paper asked him if there is a plan on the horizon for solving the Palestinian question, [words indistinct] there is no solution at the present stage for the Palestinian question because Israel, which has aggressive aims and which rose up on the bones of the Palestinian people, [words indistinct] solved the armed struggle and from the point of the Palestinian rifle. He went on to add that when American interests are hit and when Israel abandons its aggressive settlement expansionist aims, then there could be hope for a solution.

Abu Musa spoke about Shamir's forming a new Israeli government to succeed Begin. He said that he did not see any difference between the Likud and the Labor parties because both pursue a colonialist expansionist settlement policy. They also do not differ in tactics and methods of application. He stressed that there is more danger to the Palestinian question from the Labor party than from the Likud because it is more proficient in following the Zionist interest.

At the end of his interview, Abu Musa expressed his confidence that the Palestinian people in the occupied land will remain in their homeland and await the return of our dispersed people to their land. He said that the American solution is a solution to give legitimacy to the Zionist occupation of our Palestinian land. Reagan's plan gives the right to establish settlements on our land and to turn the Palestinian people into a refugee people in their own land.

In his interview Abu Musa leveled a number of criticisms at chairman of the PLO Executive Committee Yasir 'Arafat. He also leveled similar criticisms at member of the Central Committee of Fatah movement Salah Khalaf, Abu Iyad.

Fatah Forms Security, Financial Bodies

LD231657 Kuwait KUNA in English 1442 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Nicosia, Sep 23 (KUNA) — In an interview with the Palestine magazine *Filistan al-Muhtallah* (Occupied Palestine) to be published tomorrow, Fatah Central Committee member Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] stated that a Revolutionary Court for Security Matters and a Committee for Financial Affairs have been formed by Fatah to deal with the negative behavior of certain people within the organization.

The Revolutionary Court will have full authority to deal with all errors committed in Lebanon, especially during last year's Palestinian-Israeli war. The Financial Committee will consist of six persons from the Fatah Central Committee who will look into the budgets of PLO institutions and their membership. The Palestinian leadership has taken an important decision to unify the administration of the PLO, Abu Iyad said.

DFLP Warns French Against Collusion With U.S.

JN231035 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] issued a statement in Damascus last night in which it warned the French Government against collusion with U.S. hostility. The statement called on the French Government to put an end to these aggressions and to exert serious efforts on the political level to convince the Phalangist Party and its supporters in the Lebanese Government to accept a solution which will take into consideration the demands of the majority of the Lebanese people represented by the National Salvation Front, the Amal Movement, and the other Lebanese Nationalist Forces.

Fatah opposition leader Musa 'Awadh, alias Abu Akram, yesterday stated that his fighters in Al-Biqa' are ready to turn Lebanon into a new Vietnam. He made this statement at the funeral of one of opposition Palestinian officers who was killed during the battles which took place in Suq al-Gharb.

GULF AFFAIRS

GCC States Plan Military Maneuvers 1 October
LD231707 Kuwait KUNA in English 1556 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sep 23 (KUNA) — The six member-states of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) will conduct the first military maneuvers on October first to test the efficiency of their fighting capabilities in prelude to the formation of a striking Gulf military might. The three-week military exercises code named "The Gezira Shield" will use live ammunition in the deserts of the United Arab Emirates and will be manned by "token" units from the infantry forces of Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, and Bahrain with the UAE Air Force "playing a supportive role."

The announcement was made here Friday by the UAE Crown Prince and deputy commander in chief of the Armed Forces, Shaykh Khalifa ibn Zayid to the Emirates news agency. He said the exercises are designed to enable the GCC to set up the Rapid Deployment Force the GCC Supreme Soviet opted to form. The RDF is envisaged to provide joint defense for the six Gulf states against any possible threat, and contribute towards stability in the strategic Gulf region, "and boost the Arab and world peace strategy," he said. The UAE minister did not shed more light on the planned exercises but said the GCC states will also conduct joint air and naval maneuvers next year.

"The Gezira Shield exercises reveal the determination of the GCC to preserve their identity and sovereignty and their full commitment to defend their interests and protect their natural wealth against all ambitions," he explained. Shaykh Khalifa went on saying that the maneuvres are also intended to manifest that responsibility for the security of the Gulf rests with the states of the region alone without the need for patronage, interference, or outside support.

BAHRAIN

Qatari Heir Apparent Arrives On Official Visit
GF250800 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0745 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Manama, 25 Sep (WAKH) — His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, arrived here this morning on an official 3-day visit. He was received at the airport by His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of Bahrain Defense Force; ministers; Yusuf Irhamah ad-Dusari, chief of the Amiri court; a number of civilian and military officials; and ambassadors of GCC countries.

Amir Receives Al Thani
GF251034 Manama Domestic Service in Arabic 0930 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpt] His Highness the amir, Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, received in his office at the Government House today His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn Khalifah Al Thani, Qatari heir apparent and defense minister, and the delegation accompanying him, who came to greet his highness on the occasion of his visit to Bahrain. During the meeting the Qatari heir apparent conveyed to his highness the amir the greetings of his brother His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, and his wishes for Bahrain's continued progress and prosperity. They also exchanged views during the meeting.

Amir Receives Message From Al-Qadhdhafi
GF231050 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0845 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Manama, 23 Sep (WAKH) — His Highness Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has received a written message from Libyan leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi dealing with the current developments in the Arab region, particularly in Lebanon, and bilateral relations. The message was conveyed by the secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau in Bahrain, Ramadan Muhammad ar-Ra'bubi, during his meeting with His Highness Shaykh 'Isa here today.

KUWAIT

Lebanese Cease-Fire Agreement Welcomed
LD261050 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for Cabinet affairs and acting minister of foreign affairs and information, has made the following statement on the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon:

Kuwait has received with interest and satisfaction the news of the cease-fire agreement in sister Lebanon and the beginning of dialogue among the parties concerned to remove all the causes that have led to the regrettable events in the Lebanese arena. In welcoming this principled step, we laud the great efforts made to achieve it by all sides, in particular the effort made by the sister Kingdon of Saudi Arabia. We also hope that the cease-fire will be a starting point for the return to normal life in Lebanon, for affirming the good intentions to keep Lebanon unified and cohesive, capable of overcoming all difficulties in achieving security and peace on its land, for liberating all its national territory, and for resuming its historic role in the march of its Arab nation.

Deputy Premier on GCC Security Agreement, Mideast
GF251636 Kuwait Al-Qabas in Arabic 25 Sep 83 p 6

[Report on interview with Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir, deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and minister of information, by *Al-Qabas* correspondent Yusuf ash-Shihab in Kuwait before his departure to New York to attend 23d session of UN General Assembly]

[Excerpts] I said to Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad: The Kuwaiti ambassador in Washington is now in Kuwait. Is there any relationship between his presence and Kuwait's stand of rejecting the U.S. ambassador who was named to represent his country in Kuwait?

Shaykh Sabah said: Kuwait's ambassador in Washington is here on normal leave. There is no connection between his visit to Kuwait and Kuwait's rejection of the nominated U.S. ambassador. He added: The nomination of a substitute ambassador to Kuwait concerns Washington. I would like to emphasize that relations between Kuwait and the United States have not been affected by Kuwait's rejection of the appointment of the U.S. ambassador. The U.S. Administration appreciates Kuwait's position in this regard and it respects its opinion. At the same time, Kuwait wants these relations to continue in a spirit of friendship and mutual respect and on a basis of the principles adopted by nations.

Regarding the GCC security agreement and the results of Kuwait's study of this agreement, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: There are many factors and regulations that concern each of the GCC states. These are related to the rules on which every regime is based. He added: It is necessary in this case that these rules conform with the requirements of the GCC's new life. Hence, it is necessary to study the draft of this agreement which will be applicable to all the GCC states and to work for overcoming all the obstacles which hinder the implementation of the agreement so that the GCC states can implement the agreement without creating legal problems in the existing regimes in the GCC states.

The deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and minister of information continued his statement to *Al-Qabas* by saying: This is the way we are pursuing and this is the way which will lead us to narrow the gap between the principles and rules. This is the way which we are pursuing to narrow the gap between the regimes in preparing the way for comprehensive coordination among us. This is what our peoples are looking forward to.

Regarding the mediation move by Kuwait and the UAE to end the Iran-Iraq war, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: We moved within the framwork of the GCC mediation to settle the Iranian-Iraqi conflict and to stop the bloodshed between the two countries. We have tried every means and we will continue to move and exploit every possible opportunity to stop this destructive war which has now continued for more than 3 years.

Regarding his view on situation in the Middle East in the event that U.S. envoy McFarlane's mission ends in failure, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said: The major powers are trying to get the Middle East region involved in the struggle existing between them. There is no doubt that the interference in the region's affairs have led to the disturbances which we are now witnessing. Also, the creation of Israel in this region in addition to the destructive arms supplies to it, and its aggressions against the peaceful countries of the region, have led and will lead to further disturbances. McFarlane's attempts will not achieve any result as long as there is a clear and protruding bias toward Israel which has caused and is causing disorder. There is no doubt that McFarlane's attempts will fail if they are not fair to all parties. These attempts which are being made by McFarlane are only tranquillizers and will not lead to a radical settlement. "Where is the security of the other Arab countries? Where is the security of Lebanon, Syria, and Jordan? Where is the security of all these Arab countries? Or, does Israel's security lie in undermining the security of these countries?" the deputy prime minister, minister of foreign affairs, and minister of information asked with astonishment. Justice is the principle of these peoples. If the situation is otherwise, the efforts will undoubtedly fail. Unless a radical solution is developed and unless the Palestinian issue, which is the basis, is settled, and unless the people of Palestine attain all of their rights, the explosive situation and danger will remain and the security and stability of the region will be further undermined. God alone is aware of the consequences of the situation.

Interior Minister Views Regional Affairs

LD251132 Kuwait KUNA in English 1005 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Kuwait, Sep 25 (KUNA) — Shaykh Nawaf al-Ahmed al-Jabir, Kuwait's interior minister, said Sunday that the interior ministers conference of the Gulf Cooperation Council member-states, scheduled for next month, has been deferred to a date after the GCC summit due November 7. Agreement to postpone the conference was reached after recent contacts between the ministers concerned who thought to allow the specialised committees ample time to reach full agreement on all issues before them.

In an interview with the Kuwait daily *Al-Qabas* published today, the minister said the GCC has accomplished a marked understanding among the people of the region at a record short time, thus reflecting determination and coordination "in the interest of the region and its people at large."

Speaking about the security situation in Kuwait, Shaykh Nawaf said Kuwait shall always remain an oasis of security welcoming all our Arab brothers to live in peace with honour and dignity. "This has always been our unchanging policy," he said. Shaykh Nawaf, however, emphasised that "the security force will strike with an iron fist on all those who seek to disturb the security and interests of Kuwait for any reason."

The inspection campaign that began in Kuwait recently will continue throughout the year and round the clock after it proved success in arresting the idle and those residing illegally in the country, he said. The interior minister urged the citizens and residents alike to cooperate with the security force and other state machineries to protect Kuwait saying that such cooperation was indeed present and was proved many a times over. He called for application of the slogan "every citizen is a guard", adding it is the duty of all citizens and residents in the country. He denied reports that a large number of infiltrators were arrested saying there were only a handful of them. He said residence and visiting permits procedures remained unchanged, saying permits can easily be obtained by all nationalities meeting the set provisions.

Shaykh Nawaf said the Ministry of Interior was ready to begin applying the nationality law, but pointed out that the National Assembly decided to postpone application of the law stressing that as soon as the law was passed the ministry would apply it forthwith.

Commenting on the loss of passports by Kuwaitis abroad, the minister said it was "a regretable phenomenom proving recklessness of that faction," saying firm measures would be taken against those losing passports when travelling abroad. Those losing their passports will be fined and deprived of travel abroad for six months and sign to pledge never to repeat that in the future, he said stressing that the passport is an important document that should be closely guarded.

The interior minister commended the vigilance of the security forces and their arrest of criminals at the shortest time possible, saying that such accomplishments were the result of acquisition of the latest and most sophisticated criminal detection equipment coupled by vigilance and experience. Shaykh Nawaf added though that the crimes committed here were not of such grave magnitude as they look from the first sight, especially when we taken into consideration the fact that over 100 nationalities of different customs and social traditions live in Kuwait.

Commenting on the raging war between Iraq and Iran, the Kuwait minister said the Gulf Cooperation Council states are doing the best they can to put an end to the bloodshed between the two Muslim neighbours.

Speaking about the situation in Lebanon, he urged the Lebanese to resolve their differences round the negotiating table and place the interests of their country above the individual and sectarian interests. Shaykh Nawaf called on the foreign powers to refrain from interfering in the Lebanese crisis, wishing the Saudi initiative success in reaching a cease-fire and opening a dialogue to achieve national consensus.

Towards the end of the interview with the newspaper, Shaykh Nawaf appealed for Arab solidarity and unity of action and to surpass (?their) marginal differences and upholding the higher national interests. The Arabs can hope for no power or respect from the international community without these stands, he said.

SAUDI ARABIA

Prince Bandar Awaits Positive Cease-Fire Results

JN232110 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2030 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Dispatch from 'Abdallah ash-Shihri, Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Riyadh, carried within the "Panorama" program] [Text] The Riyadh government has perhaps found itself facing only one alternative, namely, to stop its mediation in Lebanon if it does not find enough response from all the Lebanese parties concerned. Prince Bandar ibn Sultan is still in Jidda waiting for the current contacts to bear fruit so he can be encouraged to leave for Damascus. In other words, Prince Bandar's return to Damascus is contingent on realizing positive results and agreement in viewpoints, which Saudi Arabia thinks will lead to the realization of two points that Riyadh is adhering to; namely, an immediate cease-fire and freezing the military positions on the ground; and beginning a dialogue among the Lebanese parties that would result in a formula that would create a new Lebanon and establish a balance among all the Lebanese factions, guaranteeing the Lebanese Government's authority and power over the entire Lebanese territory. This necessitates the withdrawal of all foreign forces from the Lebanese territory as voiced by Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi second deputy prime minister, and minister of defense and civil aviation.

UAE

Gulf Airliner Crashes 23 September; 112 Killed

NC231510 Paris AFP in English 1508 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Sept 23 (AFP) — One hundred and twelve passengers, all Pakistanis, died when a Gulf Air Boeing 737 crashed today about 30 kms (19 miles) east of the airport here, a civil aviation source reported. The crew, whose number was not given, also perished, the source said. The plane was arriving from Karachi, Pakistan, for a stopover here before going on to Doha, Qatar, the source added.

Victims' Nationalities Listed

GF240553 Dubayy Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Excerpt] WAM has learned from an official Gulf Air source in Karachi that among the victims of the passengers of the airliner which crashed yesterday evening were 96 Pakistanis, 7 Britons, 1 American, and 1 Iranian. The official source said that the airline captain was Omani and his assistant was Bahraini.

AL-KHALIJ Warns of Possible U.S. Gulf Intervention

GF250821 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0725 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Ash-Shariqah, 25 Sep (WAM) — In its editorial today, *Al-Khalij* warned that the United States and its allies will probably intervene in the Gulf region after their intervention in the Lebanese civil war, affirming that the "adviser of the U.S. Administration for Mideast affairs said he expects an escalation in the Iraqi-Iranian war, noting clearly noted that this escalation would inevitably lead to the superpowers — meaning the United States — intervention in the Arab Gulf region." *Al-Khalij* warned that "the experience of direct intervention by the United States in the Lebanese civil war can be repeated in the Gulf due to the U.S. insistence on hegemony in the Middle East region and on military domination of the Mediterranean waters, the Red Sea, and the Gulf not only to tighten Western control of the Arab resources, but also because the Middle East countries, including the Gulf countries, have not adopted the necessary measures to keep the region free from international conflicts."

Concluding its editorial, the newspaper called on the Gulf countries in particular to adopt a defensive stand. "If this stand means intensifying good efforts between Baghdad and Tehran to stop the devasting war between the two neighboring countries, it also means the Arab Gulf countries have to very clearly face the United States and any other country intending to intervene militarily in the Gulf," *Al-Khalij* concluded.

PDRY

Foreign Minister Eyes Gulf War, Relations

LD242259 Tehran IRNA in English 1943 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Tehran, Sep 24, IRNA — The foreign affairs minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, 'Abd al-'Aziz ad-Dali, said here today that the Iraq-Iran war serves to benefit only the U.S. and Zionist imperialists." The Yemenese foreign minister who was speaking to the Persian daily *Ettela'at* has said also that the safeguarding of the security of the region is the business of the countries of the region and that Washington must not be allowed to interfere in the affairs of the countries of the Middle East and Persian Gulf states.

"(On the Iran-Yemen relations): Our relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran have been rapidly expanding in every area. I hope my visit here will have good results for the peoples of the two countries. Our relations are based on mutual respect to each other's sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs, for the purpose of ensuring common interests. We hope our relations will further strengthen.

"(On the Iraq-Iran war): We believe the on-going war is to the disadvantage of the peoples of Iran and Iraq, and that it only benefits the enemies of Muslims of Iran and Iraq, and U.S. and Zionist imperialists. We were against this war since its outbreak. We hope the Almighty will deliver the peoples of Iran and Iraq from the ruinous effects of this war.

"(On Camp David and Palestine): The Camp David agreement is against the interests of the Arab and Muslim peoples and especially against the Palestinians. The Camp David agreement which was initially conceived apparently with the idea of securing peace in the region utterly failed to bring in peace to the countries of the region. It unleashed wars and boundless destruction on the peoples of the region...we dismiss any conciliatry peace plan designed by the U.S. imperialists and Zionists...we are flanking with the Palestinians and their national forces which are fighting against the occupying U.S. and other forces for liberating their lands...

"(On the Confrontation and Steadfastness Front): We must stand firmly in order to safeguard our freedom. Our very existence and our freedom is the target of conspiracies of the United States and the Zionists. The progressive countries of the region, must therefore maintain their steadfastness...

"(On recent military maneuvers of the United States in the region): Military maneuvers by the United States which are exercised by involving the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces in certain countries of the region is in fact some form of violation of the sovreignty of independent countries. We regard such maneuvers as being direct threats against our own security and sovereignty in the region...to deal with the dangers which are said to be threatening the countries of the region, is solely the business of the countries of the region and not the business of the United States. We, the countries of region are capable of finding the ways and means for ensuring peace and stability in the region by establishing good understanding and collaboration among ourselves."

Chairman Cables YAR President, Prime Minister

GF251558 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, sent a congratulatory cable to his brother in the northern part of the homeland, 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, and secretary general of the General People's Congress on the 21st anniversary of the glorious 26 September Revolution. The cable reads as follows:

On behalf of your brothers in the southern part of our dear Yemeni homeland, I am pleased to heartily congratulate you on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the 26th September Revolution, which overthrew the regime of imams and was the beginning of a new era of economic, social, and cultural changes and opened large vistas for our people to continue their struggle to liberate themselves from the colonialists. At this time as we celebrate this glorious revolutionary occasion, we look forward to that day in which the 26th September and 14th October Revolutions will embrace each other in a united democratic Yemen. We would like to assure you that we will continue to march together on the path of struggle and united in our work for the sake of restoring the unity of our homeland and people. Accept my good wishes for your continued good health and happiness and for unity, progress, and development for our Yemeni people.

Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad sent a similar cable to his brother 'Abd al-Karim al-'Iryani, prime minister and member of the Standing Committee in the northern part of the homeland. The cable reads as follows:

On the occasion of the celebration of the 21st anniversary of the 26th September Revolution by our Yemeni people, I am pleased to warmly congratulate you and the brothers in the northern part of the homeland and extend most honest wishes for our people to achieve further progress. Wishing you good health and happiness and all the success for our unitary efforts.

YAR

PDRY Officials Arrive in San'a' 25 September

GF252002 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Brothers Salih Munassar al-Siyayli, chairman of the state security committee, and 'Abdallah Ahmad Ghanim, minister of state for Cabinet affairs in the southern part of the homeland, accompanied by a delegation consisting of civilian and military officials, arrived in San'a' this evening to participate in the celebrations of our people marking the anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution.

Brother Salih Munassar al-Siyayli in statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY expressed his pleasure and the pleasure of the members of the delegation in participating with the masses of our people in their celebrations of the 21st anniversary of the glorious revolution. He said that it is a great occasion that he is participating with the masses of our people in their celebrations in the capital of unity, San'a'. The delegation was received at the airport by Lieutenant Colonel Husayn ad-Daf'i, adviser to the president of the republic for unity affairs and member of the Standing Committee; Brother 'Ali al-Bahr, minister of state and chairman of the the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation and member of the Standing Committe; Brother Lutfi al-Kilabi, minister of local government and chairman of the reception committee; members of the committee; and a number of civilian and military officials.

Libyan, Soviet Delegations Arrive in San'a'

GF252042 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Delegations of friendly and fraternal countries are arriving in San'a' to participate in the celebrations of our people to mark the anniversary of their immortal revolution. The Libyan delegation, led by Brig Abu Bakr Yunus, commander in chief of the Libyan Armed Forces, arrived in San'a' this evening. In a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, Abu Bakr Yunus expressed his pleasure for participating with our Yemeni people in their celebrations of their glorious revolution. He hailed relations and bonds which link the 26 September Revolution and the 1 September Revolution. He expressed his hope that the Yemeni people will achieve their ambitions and unity objectives which will have a positive influence on the Arab nation in achieving its desired unity. He was received at the airport by Lt Col 'Abdallah al-Bashiri, chief of staff and member of the Standing Committee; Lt Col Lutfi al-Kilabi, minister of local government and chairman of the reception committee; and 'Ali al-Bahar, minister of state and chairman of the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Corporation and member of the Standing Committee; a number of army and police officers; the director of the Libyan people's bureau in San'a'; and a representative of the protocol office at the Foreign Ministry.

(Nikolay Veroyini), USSR minister of health [title as heard], arrived in San'a' this morning leading a Soviet delegation to participate in the celebrations of the 21st anniversary of the immortal 26 September Revolution. (Nikolay Veroyini), in a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY, expressed his deep pleasure for participating in these celebrations. He emphasized the deep relations between our country and the Soviet Union.

President Speaks on Revolution Anniversary

GF260558 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Speech delivered by Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of republic, on 21st anniversary of 26 September Revolution in San'a' on 25 September]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. May peace and prayers be upon the generous Prophet. O our struggling Yemeni people in the homeland and abroad, O heroes of the Armed and Security Forces: I greet you on the occasion of the great September victory, achieved with God's will and the people's power. It pleases me very much, on this precious national occasion, the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the 26 September Revolution, to congratulate you on the happiness and joy of this immortal celebration day, and for the great accomplishments and achievements made in the course of the revolution, the wealth of which our people enjoy throughout the homeland and in various paths of change and construction. I salute your steadfastness, your belief and your loyalty to the revolution and its goals and your total and continuous readiness to defend it, regarding it is the result of the people's struggle and achievement of their heroic struggles for the sake of freedom, progress and prosperity. We also address our blessed and honorable salute to the souls of our people's martyrs and those of the fraternal Egypt accompanied by the maximum appreciation and gratitude and linked with a firm pledge to continue to march on the course of the great September so that our people will achieve all that they wish.

O free citizens, out of our faithful concern for the revolution, its principles and achievements, it is necessary for us to reiterate on every occasion our people's situation before the revolution — a situation of oppression, poverty, terror, persecution, fragmentation, and dispersion. It is loyalty to the struggle and the revolutionary nobility to cope with all the displays of happiness and feelings of active joy on this immortal celebration date and its official and popular reflection — through an aware stance of revision of all the developments of the course and its circumstances and the aspiration to new work ideas — which will help us continue on the path of doubling the successes and achievements.

Our dear people, our commitment to the Palestinian issue is a principled commitment and a firm Islamic role, which is inseparable from our national commitment to the revolution and its goals. We will continue our pledge to aid and support with blood and with all our country's capabilities in order to enable the success of the Palestinian revolution and achieve all the legitimate rights of our Arab Palestinian people to return to their land and establish their independent state on Palestinian soil under the PLO's leadership.

We will resume our efforts to put an end to the aggravating Arab differences, regarding them as serious obstacles to uniting the Arab nation and to the Palestinian revolution's victory. We affirm our belief that the Arab differences only serve the imperialist and the hostile sides, whose plans and efforts are conscripted by Israel and the international Zionist powers. This should be overcome by the Arab nation as soon as possible so as not to complicate the dangers and make them difficult to avoid in the future. Thus, we express our extreme optimism for the reconciliation atmosphere which is prevailing in the Arab Maghreb and which affirms the alert awareness of the brothers there of the importance of the requirements of the current stage, that is, to overcome all the differences in the direction of unity among the Arab countries. We hope that this atmosphere will prevail in all the Arab countries, from east to west, and that everyone will make use of these positive and alert steps to serve the Arab nation and save it from the threat of fragmentation and bitter setbacks, especially with rzgard to the destructive war between the two Islamic countries, Iraq and Iran. This war threatens the safety, security, unity, and destiny of all the Arab and Islamic nations in existence. This prompts us to call upon the Muslim brothers in Iran to respond to the efforts of the Muslim brothers in order to put an end to the bloodshed of innocent Muslims, seeking just arbitration responding to to the various mediations efforts, and accepting peaceful negotiation as a means to solve the problem at its roots.

O free Yemeni citizens, on this occasion we should pause at our country's foreign policy, in view of the fact that our foreign relations are a natural extension of the clear and principled internal policy adopted by our country.

We thank God that the great successes which we achieved by the internal construction have helped us very much in formulating a clear and positive foreign policy — a policy that had a great effect on developing and strengthening our friendly relations with all the fraternal countries, and expanding of the cooperation and coordination between us. That policy has also helped us to have equal relations with the world's countries and with the Eastern and Western camps.

President Mubarak Leaves for Paris 26 September

NC260836 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0830 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Excerpt] Cairo, 26 Sep (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak left Cairo this morning for Paris at the beginning of a 9-day tour during which he will visit France and the United States. President Mubarak is accompanied by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali.

Previews French, U.S. Visits

NC260652 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA) — In a statement that will be published by the newspaper *May* on Monday, prior to his departure from Cairo on a tour that will take him to Paris, Washington, and the United Nations, President Husni Mubarak said he will hold talks with world leaders on Egypt's views concerning all international and nonaligned issues. President Mubarak said: We in Egypt hold special views regarding the Middle East, Lebanese, and Palestinian problems. We will brief the world leaders on these views.

Alluding to his participation in some of the UN General Assembly meetings, the president said: Mrs Indira Ghandhi, the Indian prime minister and Current chairman of the nonaligned session, has invited some leaders of the Nonaligned Movement to take part in the current UN General Assembly session and to exchange views regarding various problems that concern the Movement. This is what actually encouraged me more to participate in this session, President Mubarak added.

Touching on his visit to Washington and his talks with President Ronald Reagan and high-ranking congressmen, President Mubarak said the talks will deal with the delicate topics that concern the Middle East, Lebanon, and the Palestinian problems. President Mubarak added: The talks will also deal with the distinguished relations that link Egypt with the United States and with their cooperation in the economic domain and in the field of arms supplies. President Mubarak further said: I will request the U.S. side to show more flexibility in the fields of economic aid and arms supplies and to offer more facilities [tashilat] in both areas.

On his Paris visit, President Mubarak said that Egypt and France are linked by important political and economic relations. He said: There are common issues that I will discuss and exchange viewpoints on with President Mitterrand, particularly the Middle East issue.

Mubarak Receives Lebanese Economy Minister

NC251400 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received today Lebanese Economy, Trade, and Tourism Minister Ibrahim Halawah, who carried a message from Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil to President Mubarak. He then received Field Marshal Muhammad 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production.

The Lebanese envoy stated that he conveyed a message from President al-Jumayyil to President Mubarak pertaining to the present situation in Lebanon. He said that he found President Mubarak most understanding and forthcoming. We in Lebanon are confident that Egypt's assistance will continue as a result of the historic bonds between our peoples, he said. He added that the help forwarded by President Mubarak, his government, and the Egyptian people will be one of the factors that will terminate the tribulation in Lebanon.

The Lebanese envoy said that Lebanon does not have any specific demands for the president to carry along on his trip to the United States, only a detailed explanation of facts. We leave it to President Mubarak to chose his own way of helping Lebanon, and this matter is not new to his excellency since he played an important role, which we appreciate, during the Israeli invasion of Beirut.

With regard to the current contacts among Syria, Lebanon, and Saudi Arabia, the Lebanese envoy said: The Saudi role is still continuing. We hope in the near future to achieve an honorable outcome that preserves our independence and the dignity of our nation and halts the bloody conflict in Lebanon.

Concerning the recent appeal of President Mubarak, the envoy said: We highly regard this honorable Arab stance of President Mubarak and hope Israel, and accordingly Syria, will favorably respond so that Lebanon can establish its sovereignty over its territory. There is a lot that President Mubarak can do thanks to his international stature.

With respect to Mubarak's appeal for a conference comprising the Lebanese parties, the envoy said that Lebanon is ready for any meeting to regain its sovereignty. This appeal is being studied and if good intentions prevail, the conference will be held.

The Lebanese envoy stressed that the current conflict and bloody war in Lebanon is not a sectarian war at all. All the Lebanese sects back the legitimate authority and the establishment of Lebanon's sovereignty over its territory. This is particularly obvious in the Islamic stance issued 4 days ago in Dar al-Fatwa [office of Muslim mufti].

Concluding his statement, the Lebanese envoy said: Lebanon will constantly keep in touch with the Egypt, the eldest sister, because of its Arab and international importance and the intimate relations linking the two countries.

'Ali Explains Egyptian Stand on Lebanon

NC251154 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1125 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today received the ambassadors of Britain, France, and Italy in Cairo at their request. During the meeting the three ambassadors infomred 'Ali about the efforts their governments are making to bring about a halt to the fighting in Lebanon and to put an end to the deteriorating situation there.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali reaffirmed to the ambassadors Egypt's stand on solving the Lebanese crisis by assisting any efforts aimed at securing an immediate cease-fire and initiating efforts for a national reconciliation serving the interests of all communities and ending the dispute between them. 'Ali also emphasized to the ambassadors that Egypt's stand on the crisis is indicated in the need for the departure of all foreign forces from Lebanon according to a timetable so as to enable the legitimate authority to control the south and secure the borders in accordance with the security measures contained in the Lebanese-Israeli agreement.

FRG's Helmut Schmidt confers With Officials

President Mubarak

NC231228 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] President and Mrs Mubarak received former FRG Chancellor and Mrs Helmut Schmidt at noon today. Replying to a question on the reason for inviting the German guest to visit Cairo, President Mubarak said: Schmidt is a close friend of Egypt and his absence from government does not mean that we should not meet. We have met a number of times in Egypt and Germany in the past.

On the topics of their talks, the president said: The meeting will be an open one during which Middle East problems, the situation in the area, and relations between the two countries will be discussed.

President Mubarak gave a luncheon banquet in honor of the German guest.

Foreign Minister 'Ali

NC241050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1015 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Cairo, 24 Sep (MENA) — Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali today recieved former FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt, who is currently visiting Egypt. During the meeting, a comprehensive review was made of the situation in the Middle East, particularly the deteriorating situation in Lebanon, and the current situation pertaining to the Palestine issue. They also discussed the current international situation and the various tensions prevailing in it at present.

Mubarak on People's Assembly October Session

NC242036 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Following his meeting with members of the NDP parliamentary group today, President Husni Mubarak told newsmen that our basic and main task during this period is to seek to ensure the continuation of stability and security in Egypt in order to achieve development, freedom, and democracy. President Mubarak said that without stability, there will be no democracy, freedom, or development.

President Mubarak was asked when the People's Assembly session will meet. He replied: The People's Assembly will hold its parliamentary session on its usual date, that is, in November. However, the Assembly is invited to an extraordinary session on 1 October to discuss the amendment of the decision on the suspicion law and also the two decisions pertaining to the cancellation of law No 2 for 1976 and law No 34 for 1972. Furthermore, 14 urgent economic agreements will be submitted to the Assembly at its extraordinary session.

Mubarak Briefs NDP Deputies on Policy Lines

NC241516 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Statement issued by Minister of State for Information Safwat ash-Sharif on 24 September —recorded]

[Excerpts] The president met with the NDP parliamentary group today. The meeting was attended by NDP members of the People's Assembly, the Political Bureau, the General Secretariat, the deputy prime ministers, and the ministers. The president explained domestic issues involving national action. He answered several questions by members of the parliamentary group on the domestic situation.

In his replies to questions, the president said: The first goal that I should achieve and that lies ahead of me is to realize Egypt's security, to achieve stability, to realize the citizens' security, and to achieve the interests of the ordinary citizens.

Responding to a question about the emergency law, the president said: The emergency law is meant to ensure the homeland and citizens. It is also meant to safeguard the march of democracy and to ensure the evolution of Egypt's development. The law neither favors nor supports the rulers.

In this connection, the interior minister told the parliamentary group: The emergency law will be used only in following and resisting extremism and terrorism, as well as the underground organizations that expose the country's security to untold dangers. The interior minister also emphasized that the reports published in some newspapers on pressure being put on some defendants constitute lies and unfounded allegations aimed at paralyzing the security organs and preventing them from discharging their duty, adding that these organs continue to achieve security and stability for the citizens.

Regarding freedom of the press, the president said: Egypt is now living the epoch of democracy. The press has full freedom, which it did not previously enjoy during any phase of Egypt's history.

On the continuing implementation of the 5-year plan, the president said: For the first time, the 5-year plan has lasted beyond its 1st year; it has now entered its 2d year. It is important to preserve the plan's continuity.

Regarding encouragement of national production, the president said: I have called on the citizens to encourage Egyptian products to achieve more affinity with the homeland and to improve the production of Egyptian commodities in a way that also helps limit imports, save hard currency, and improve the balance of payments, which would also provide the citizens and the youths with employment opportunities.

With regard to economic policy, the president said: It is imperative to encourage exports, to achieve an agricultural and an industrial surplus, and to raise the standard of vocations and vocational products, as well as of all Egyptian products so that they are accepted on foreign markets.

The president answered questions about the country's foreign policy. He explained this policy and Egypt's role in the Arab world in the resolution of Arab issues, particularly the Lebanese issue. He also explained the contacts that Egypt and the Arabs are holding in this respect. He explained that Egypt, through the moves it makes, seeks to prevent the Palestinian issue from being frozen and to prevent the Lebanese issue from being resolved at the expense of liquidating the Palestinian issue. Egypt is exerting its utmost efforts and it hopes the Lebanese will achieve their national unity.

Concerning Egypt's policy, the president answered several questions. He said: Please note that Egypt has no armed forces, or even just one Egyptian soldier, outside its borders. We have our economic and social goals which we seek to achieve on a sound basis. Please do not heed such rumors.

The president also said: Egypt is a nonaligned state. The president emphasized that Egypt does not permit the establishment of any foreign bases on its territory and that Egypt is its own master. The president added: No one can put pressure on Egypt or on its leadership. No power has put, or has tried to put, any pressure on Egypt to influence our decisions, because our policy is clear and whatever contradicts our policy is rejected.

Regarding the Palestinian issue, the president said: We have been helping the Palestinian cause throughout history. We stand alongside this cause. We support the Palestinians' rights in all international domains.

Interior Minister Discusses Emergency Law

NC232255 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Cairo, 23 Sep (MENA) — Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha stated that the emergency law has no bearing on the coming elections in Egypt. The security organs guarantee full neutrality toward all rival forces in the elections, he said. Abu Basha emphasized that the application of this law is subject to full judiciary control.

In an interview to be published tomorrow, Saturday, by the weekly newspaper *Akhbar al-Yawm*, the interior minister referred to the emergency law and the commotion raised about it, saying this commotion is misplaced. He pointed out that the government has vowed to the People's Assembly that the emergency law will be applied only in combatting terrorism and violence.

In his interview, the interior minister said the commotion created over the emergency law disregards the fact that the stability attained in Egypt in the past 2 years is what allowed all political forces in Egypt to move in complete freedom and to issue their newspapers without any restrictions. Abu Basha added that all forces realize that what is being achieved in Egypt now had never been achieved before or after the 23 July revolution. He called for exploiting this success to bolster democracy and not to allow dark schemes to pull Egypt backward.

In his interview, the interior minister said the security organs do not resort to coercion or torture because they believe in strong evidence.

Al-Jihad Organization Members Arrested

NC260816 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Cairo, 25 Sep (MENA) — State security men have arrested two dangerous members of the Al-Jihad organization who killed an undercover policeman and wounded two others when they attempted to attack two gaurds to seize their arms. One is named Khalid Sayyid Muhyi ad-Din, a student in the agricultural cooperation institute in Shubra al-Khaymah, and the other is Isma'il Muhammad Mustafa, who holds a preparatory certificate and works as a daily paid painter.

The state security men also arrested fugitives and other members of the Al-Jihad organization who were released in case No 462 of 1981. The preliminary investigation by the state security criminal investigation department indicates that the two persons were members of a small secret group which embraces the Al-Jihad organization's position and which aims to break into jewelry shops to steal to finance their arms purchases. For this purpose, the group held several meetings and agreed to begin their plan by seizing arms from guards in remote places.

Interior Minister Hasan Abu Basha ordered that urgent aid amounting to 1,500 Egyptian pounds be paid to the family of the deceased sergeant and that 3 months' salary be paid to the two informers who took part in arresting the two accused.

Communiques Report 22-25 Sep War Operations

Communique No 1,226

JN231617 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 3 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,226 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 23 September 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The glorious sons of Iraq and their capable armed forces are continuing their bold operations at the front against the forces of rancor and evil in Iran. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. Using various weapons, our forward units attacked an enemy concentration in front of their positions in the northern sector of the front, killing five and destroying a machinegun emplacement and a hardware stockpile. In the same sector yesterday, new groups of Iranians sought refuge with our units escaping the terror and evil of charlatan Khomeyni and his criminal clique. They were all safely evacuated to the rear.

2. Two were killed and one hardware stockpile destroyed in the central sector of the front.

3. One hardware stockpile and one heavy machinegun were destroyed in the area east of Basra.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 September 1983.

Communique No 1,227

JN241606 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Sep (INA) — Iraqi fighter aircraft today carried out fierce raids against Iranian troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits.

This was stated in military Communique No 1,227 issued by the Armed Forces General Command this evening. The communique added that flames were seen spiraling and columns of smoke billowing from the targets hit. The communique said that all the Iraqi fighter aircraft returned safely to base.

The communique mentioned that one of the forward combat patrols pounded an Iranian troop position in the central sector of the battlefield with its weapons, destroying two infantry positions whose occupants were hit. The communique said that new groups of Iranian soldiers escaping from Iran sought refuge with the Iraqi forces in the central sector and were evacuated to the rear.

The communique also said that one enemy soldier was killed and two hardware stockpiles and one infantry position were destroyed east of Basra and that the occupants of the infantry position were killed. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,227 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The defenders of the homeland and the shield of the Arab nation, the valiant sons of our Iraqi people and their Armed Forces continue to confront the Khomeyniite aggressors and to inflict heavy losses on them. The results of the activities in the operational sectors yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Formations of our valiant Iraqi fighter aircraft today carried out intensive and fierce raids against enemy positions and troop concentrations in the northern sector of the battlefield, scoring direct hits. Flames were seen spiraling and columns of smoke billowing from the enemy's hit targets. All our fighter aircraft returned safely to base, praise be to god.

2. One of our combat patrols pounded enemy positions opposite their forward positions in the central sector of the battlefield with all types of weapons, destroying two infantry positions whose occupants were hit. New groups of Iranian soldiers, escaping the oppression and injustice of the rancorous Khomeyni and the terrorism of his racist and suspect regime, sought refuge with our forward units in the same sector and were safely evacuated to the rear.

3. One was killed and two hardware stockpiles and one infantry position were destroyed east of Basra. The occupants of the infantry position were killed.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 24 Septemebr 1983

Communique No 1,228

JN251638 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1625 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Communique No 1,228 issued by the Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 25 September 1983]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces pursue their triumphant activities and their victories against the forces of the racist Iranian enemy. The results of the activities yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units clashed with an enemy force opposite its positions in the northern sector of the battlefield. Our forces pounded it with all types of weapons, killing 19 and wounding many.

2. One of our combat patrols clashed with an enemy patrol opposite our forward units positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing and wounding many and forcing the rest to retreat. One enemy soldier was also killed in another area of the same sector.

3. One enemy soldier was killed east of Basra.

4. The criminal Khomeyniite clique yesterday shelled Mandali and Sayyid Sadiq and their suburbs. The enemy shellingwounded five civilians in Sayyid Sadiq and damaged several civilian properties in Mandali.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 25 September 1983

Ahvaz Front Official Threatens Increased Activity
JN261011 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Basra, 25 Sep (INA) — (Mundir Menahi), secretary general of the Arab Front for the Liberation of Ahvaz, has stated that the coming days will witness increasing activity by the front in the Ahvaz arena and on the Arab and international level.

In a statement to an INA correspondent here today, he said that the front is viewing the future of the revolution in Ahvaz with optimism in the wake of the unification of all the factions of the revolution under the front's command.

He also explained that the Iranian regime is carrying out a campaign of oppression against the Arabs in Ahvaz and that this regime has violated the citizens' national and human rights, denied them the right to employment, deprived them of social and health services, and confiscated their agricultural land. This regime also evicted the Ahvaz inhabitants and is seeking to detach them from their Arab nation and to turn them into Persians.

He stressed that the front is determined to escalate its confrontation with the Persian occupation.

Spokesman Reports on Iranian Oilfield Fires
JN241214 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1100 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] An official spokesman has stated the following: Further to our 22 September 1983 statement in which we denied the Iranian regime's claims that it had controlled the fire in one of the wells in the Nowruz oilfield, it has become clear to us that two wells are still ablaze in the Nowruz oilfield. However,oil has not been observed to be leaking from the third damaged well.

President Addresses Citizens on War With Iran
JN251856 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1615 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has stated that the war has made the Iraqis more cohesive, united, strong, capable, and optimistic of the future.

In a speech delivered here today when he received another group of Iraqi donors from Diyala Governorate, east of central Iraq, President Saddam Husayn said that the border cities in this governorate had shouldered a heavier burden of the evils of Khomeyni and his aides.

Commenting on Khomeyni's claims that Iran has not shelled Iraqi cities, President Saddam Husayn said: Khomeyni is either stupid or a liar. In both cases, he is not fit to be a leader. The president explained that any liar cannot be a religious man, and any stupid person is not fit to be a leader. If Khomeyni's aides have been shelling Iraqi cities all this time, without his knowledge or without his asking about it, then he is stupid. If he knows, but claims the contrary, then he is a hypocrite and a liar.

President Saddam Husayn said: If Khomeyni possesses any grain of honor and human sentiment then he must relinquish his responsibility to other Iranians. He must do this so they can rearrange their state of affairs because Khomeyni's evil, aggressive, expansionist, and backward stands have placed them in an unpleasant situation inside and outside Iran.

President Saddam Husayn stressed that the prolongation of the war will not benefit Khomeyni as he imagines; it will expose him in Iran as being impotent in offering solutions to the problems of the Iranian peoples.

President Saddam Husayn said that Khomeyni is unable to offer solutions to the problems of agrarian reforms, foreign trade, and the other problems that Iranian society faces. President Saddam Husayn pointed out that demonstrations are taking place in several Iranian cities calling for a halt to the war, peace, and for Khomeyni's downfall.

Concluding, President Saddam Husayn stressed that the war is not expected to last longer than it did in the past, [az-zaman al-ladhi mada 'ala al-harb huwa az-zaman al-atwal min ma yuntazar min az-zamanal-qadim laha]stating that the final result of the war will be the triumph of Iraqi rights over Iranian falsehoods.

Saudi King Reiterates Support for War Effort
JN241623 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1610 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Jidda, 24 Sep (INA) — Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has reiterated the support of Saudi Arabia — king, government, and people — for Iraq in its just war with the Iranian regime.

During his meeting here today with 'Abdallah Fadil 'Abbas, Iraqi minister of awqaf and religious affairs and head of the Iraqi pilgrims mission, King Fahd said his country is ready to assist and support Iraq in its just battle. The Saudi monarch praised the relations that exist between the two fraternal countries in all spheres.

'Abdallah Fadil 'Abbas conveyed Saddam Husayn's greetings to King Fahd and his wishes of prosperity and development for the fraternal Saudi people.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed fraternal relations and ways of promoting them to serve the interests of the Iraqi and Saudi peoples and to bolster Arab solidarity.

President Gives Al-Jumayyil Views on Lebanon War
JN231843 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1822 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Sep (INA) — President Saddam Husayn has reassured Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil of Iraq's firm stand on and concern for Lebanon's unity and freedom. He also reasserted Iraq's stand against the narrow-minded views of some

Arab regimes and their interference in Lebanon's internal affairs at the expense of Lebanon's unity, security, and independence.

This came yesterday in a telephone exchange between Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and President Saddam Husayn on the development of events in fraternal Lebanon.

President Saddam Husayn told the Lebanese president that the confrontation between the deviating stands of some Arab regimes must not distract the Lebanese authority from shouldering its main responsibility to confront Israel, forcing its forces to withdraw from Lebanon, and bolster the struggle to expel all the other foreign forces from Lebanon.

He also stressed that the Lebanese authority should follow up its responsibility to maintain Lebanon's security and unity, curb thenarrow-minded factional trends, and prevent them from fighting at the expense of Lebanon's unity and its positive ties with the Arab homeland.

Foreign Minister Arrives in N.Y. for UN Session

JN251641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1620 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] New York, 25 Sep (INA) — Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi RCC member and foreign minister, arrived here today.

Tariq 'Aziz will head the Iraqi delegation to the current UN General Assembly session which began here last Tuesday.

Newspapers Comment on Cease-Fire in Lebanon

JN261051 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Press review]

[Text] Jordanian papers today comment on the cease-fire decision in Lebanon which was announced last night.

Under the headline "Lebanon Is at the Door of Great Hope," *Sawt ash-Sha'b says: The declaration of a cease-fire in Lebanon* is not the result of the hard efforts exerted during 3 weeks of the most savage civil war in modern history as much as it is a response to the logic of reason, conscience, and nationalism which finally imposed itself on the Lebanese factions. The declaration of a cease-fire does not mean the end of Lebanon's suffering but the beginning of a long trip which must start with a halt of the fighting and bloodshed and end in national accord and reconciliation within the framework of the one homeland which is governed by justice and permeated by the spirit of brotherhood and equality concerning the rights and duties of all Lebanese, regardless of their different factions, political affiliations, and sects.

Sawt ash-Sha'b adds: If the conditions of the cease-fire agreement are directed toward this end, it must be noted that this agreement was reached on the grounds of equality and not that of hegemony or power derived from this or that external side. The agreement is not a temporary armistice that allows any side to exploit it in changing the reality; it is a binding decision which paves the way for the beginning of a national dialogue and accord. Lebanon, which now has one last opportunity to save itself from the conspiracy being concocted against its pan-Arab existence and affiliation, is called upon with all its factions, parties, and sects to seize this opportunity and commit itself not to open the front of fire which would kill the great hope for which the Lebanese have waited a long time.

Under security and stability, the national dialogue will grow and, amid good intentions and awareness of the large dangers resulting from dependence on the superpowers and external forces, the reconciliation conference will be able to adopt a decision that solves Lebanon's crisis.

Lebanon is the homeland of all the Lebanese — a free, Arab, democratic, unified, and independent homeland. Lebanon is standing at the door of great hope and the even greater hope that this opportunity will not be lost under the ruins of bombs and the chains of tanks.

Under the headline "The Halting of Fighting Is Victory for All the Lebanese," *Ad-Dustur* says: Although the Syrian and the Phalangist stand on the cease-fire agreement was ambiguous until late last night to the extent that the press conference during which Prince Bandar ibn Sultan was expected to announce the details of this agreement and the subsequent conference of national reconciliation had not convened, indications from Beirut, Washington, and the battlefronts confirm that a cease-fire has been reached and the sound of guns has actually ceased to be heard on all fronts. Furthermore, optimism is prevailing among Lebanese and Arab circles that the bloody nightmare which Lebanon has witnessed during past weeks has begun to diminish, opening the road for cool diplomacy to heal the wounds, unite the ranks, and rebuild the fragmented homeland.

Ad-Dustur adds: While it is too early to predict to what extent the warring factions will respect the cease-fire decision, it is hoped that everyone will realize that abidance by the cease-fire is a victory for all the Lebanese and a defeat for all the elements and factions which harbor no good for Lebanon. We are aware that halting battles alone is not sufficient to tackle the Lebanese tragedy. Yet, in light of the bloody circumstances which Lebanon lived through recently with all the killings, the acts of intimidation, the emigration of people, and the destruction of cities and villages which accompanied these circumstances, the cease-fire decision constitutes an important accomplishment: It places Lebanon at the very beginning of the road to salvation.

The cease-fire decision is a direct gain for the Lebanese as much as it is a gain for all the Arabs who were pained by the strife of the brothers and whose homeland was subjected to dangers resulting from the massing of fleets. Our energies and concerns were much exhausted by the Lebanese incidents, and our attention was diverted from what is taking place in the occupied territories with respect to coercion, settlement, and Judaization. It goes without saying that the main beneficiary from the Lebanese war is the Israeli enemy, who paved the way for this dreadful explosion before its withdrawal and remained hidden behind the dust of cannons in southern Lebanon and the occupied Arab territories so as to entrench its occupation and deepen its material existence in the Arab territory in Palestine and Lebanon.

Ad-Dustur adds: While we welcome the cease-fire initiative in Lebanon and consider it the prelude to any constructive democratic dialogue, we deeply hope that the Lebanese will seize all the cards from the hands of the external forces. Long experience has proved these external forces harbor ambitions in Lebanon and are benefiting from the continuation of the conflict in it. *Ad-Dustur concludes: When intentions are good, dialogue is* the sole viable alternative to all Lebanon's suffering and dangers, particularly the probable loss of all Lebanon as a unified and democratic homeland within the framework of the Arab world.

Under the headline "Lebanon's Unity and Arabism," *Ar-Ra'y* says: It was announced yesterday that the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon had come into effect. While we hope that all the Lebanese factions will abide by this agreement and also that the upcoming reconciliation conference will put an end to the pains and sacrifices of the Lebanese, there are numerous factors which still have an impact on Lebanon's existence, unity, sovereignty, and Arab affiliation. First, it has been confirmed during the past few weeks in Lebanon that those who harbor ambitions as to Lebanon's Arabism and concoct plots against it were the real instrument of all that this fraternal Arab country faced and behind all present and future threats. Those who wagered on affiliation and loyalty to Israel at the expense of the Lebanese people's affiliation to their nation have certainly realized that robbing Lebanon of its national identity and Arab existence is not easy. They also realized that wagering on military supremacy which is hostile to this nation is a losing bet, because the planes, cannons, barges, and all the means of killing and destruction may turn Lebanon into ruins but cannot reach its roots and make it deviate from its great homeland and single nation.

Second, the superpowers' imagining that they could deal with this nation as a nation of slaves quickly fell before the fact that the options of peoples, regardless of their beliefs and trends, are stronger than military supremacy and the arrogance of muscles and barges.

Third, Lebanon can emerge from the ruins, bind up its wounds, and be victorious over the years of infighting and grudges only through the national accord which has been Lebanon's most characteristic feature and which succeeded in unifying Lebanon's sects toward Lebanese unity, sovereignty, and genuine Arab affiliation.

The Lebanese have returned to the point from which they should not have strayed. It is the point of dialogue which takes into account Lebanon's unity, which is capable of confronting every condemned connection or suspect dealing and which also takes into account that Lebanon's salvation cannot be achieved through Lebanon's detachment from its Arab fold but only through more interaction with it. Experience has proved that neither the Israeli invasion nor the multinational forces are concerned about a united, independent, and Arab Lebanon. Their concern has always been to destroy everything that is national, Arab, or civilized in Lebanon.

British Defense Academy Delegation Continues Visit

Meets Information Minister

JN241345 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Amman — Information Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah received at his office today the British Defense Academy delegation. During the meeting, Abu 'Awdah asserted the danger of the continuation of the Lebanese war on peace in the region in general and on the Palestinian issue in particular, because it turned the central issue into a secondary one.

Abu 'Awdah reviewed the roles played by various parties in the Lebanese war and the view of every party on the Lebanese future. On the future of Lebanon, Abu 'Awdah said there are three trends: The first calls for supporting the legitimacy as a preparatory move to holding a balanced national accord which will consider the interests of all parties. The second works to destroy the legitimacy and establish a Lebanon on the basis of the current reality for every faction in Lebanon, so that the new Lebanon would consist of small states. The third trend, which is represented by Israel, aims at dismembering Lebanon into many states in accordance with the sectarian reality in Lebanon.

Abu 'Awdah noted that, in light of the current Arab reality and the sectarian war in Lebanon, Israel continues to entrench its occupation of the West Bank. This is represented by a number of measures, including the establishment of settlements. The Israeli occupation forces continue their policy to the extent of establishing settlements in Hebron, one of the biggest cities in the West Bank.

Abu 'Awdah also reviewed the dangers to the Palestinian people stemming from establishing such settlements, asserting that the state of no war, no peace will help Israel pursue its hostile plan.

Chief of Staff's Reception

JN241452 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Amman, 24 Sep (PETRA) — Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Talib received at his office this morning the head of the British Defense Academy delegation which is currently visiting Jordan.

Hasan Receives Delegation

JN241520 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1452 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Amman, 24 Sep (PETRA) — His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the regent, received at the Royal Hashemite Court this morning the British Defense Academy delegation which is currently visiting Jordan. His highness reviewed the Middle East situation in general and the situation in the occupied Arab territories in particular. His highness the regent also touched on Israel's continued practices and measures to Judaize the occupied territories and empty them of their legitimate inhabitants. He affirmed that such measures are being stepped up in the absence of an effective confrontation by international organs.

Foreign Minister Leaves for UN Session

JN251237 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Marwan al-Qasim left Amman today for New York to participate in the 38th session of the UN General Assembly. During his stay in New York, Al-Qasim will meet with a number of heads of delegations taking part in the session to discuss issues on the agenda, particularly those related to the Middle East, Palestine, Lebanon, and the Iraqi-Iranian war.

Al-Qasim is also scheduled to take part in the Arab seven-member committee which was formed by the Fes summit conference to discuss the latest developments in Arab political moves related to the current important events in the region.

Hasan Ibrahim Receives PLO Officials 24 Sep

JN251028 Amman Sawt ash-Sha'b in Arabic 25 Sep 83 p 1

[Text] Amman, *Sawt ash-Sha'b* — Occupied Territories Minister Hasan Ibrahim received at his office yesterday PLO Executive Committee member Ahmad Sidqi ad-Dajani and Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzak al-Yahya, director general of the Political Department and PLO representative in Jordan.

The meeting dealt with the latest developments in the Palestinian arena and means of strengthening the Palestinian people's struggle in their homeland.

PSP Forces in Lebanon To Receives Medical Aid

JN250956 Amman Ar-Ra'y in Arabic 25 Sep 83 pp 1, 20

[Text] Amman, *Ar-Ra'y* — A committee was formed yesterday in Amman under Dr Hasan Khurays to arrange for the dispatch of a medical team and medical supplies to the Progressive Socialist Party forces in Lebanon.

The committee was formed in the wake of a meeting held in the PLO office in Amman. This meeting was attended by Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razaq al-Yahya, Najib al-Ahmad [PLO chairman's office director in Amman], Salim Shahin, Dr Hasan Khurays, Dr 'Abd al-'Aziz al-Haj Ahmad, Shaykh Rajab at-Tamimi, Fahd al-Qawasimah, Muhammad Milhim, a number of PNC members in Jordan, and a number of the PLO office employees.

In a telephone contact with *Ar-Ra'y*, Najib al-Ahmad said: The committee was formed in response to a request by Yasir 'Arafat, who sent similar requests to all PLO offices abroad.

Al-Ahmad added that the medical team and the medical supplies will be dispatched to Tripoli, northern Lebanon, where 'Arafat and the PLO leaders will supervise their distribution.

Beirut Announces Cease-Fire Agreement 25 Sep

NC251726 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1657 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] We have just been informed that U.S. presidential envoy Robert McFarlane arrived at the Presidential Palace at 1830. Mr McFarlane was accompanied by his assistant, Richard Fairbanks. Both were received by President Amin al-Jumayyil. McFarlane conveyed to President al-Jumayyil the news about the achievement of a cease-fire agreement to take effect at 1930 today. The news was conveyed at the very moment that William Clark, U.S. presidential adviser for national security affairs, was announcing the agreement in Washington. We can proclaim that Lebanon has officially received the news about the achievement of a cease-fire agreement to take effect at 1930 today. I want also to say that Ambassador McFarlane has notified President al-Jumayyil that Prince Bandar ibn Sultan is on his way to Damascus to proclaim from the Syrian capital the success of the Saudi mediation and, consequently, the achievement of a cease-fire. It is expected that new details of the cease-fire will emerge concerning the implementation of the political side of this agreement. This is all we have received at this time. Ambassador McFarlane is still meeting with President al-Jumayyil in the Presidential Palace. Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan is expected to join the conferees within a few minutes.

Reagan Congratulates Al-Jumayyil on Cease-Fire

NC251853 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1802 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Approximately 30 minutes ago, President Amin al-Jumayyil received a telephone call from U.S. President Reagan, who is now in New York. As President Reagan was talking on the telephone, UN Secretary General Javier Peres de Cuellar was beside him. President Reagan told President al-Jumayyil that he is very happy that efforts have yielded fruit and we have achieved results. Reagan told President al-Jumayyil that he supports the agreement which has been reached, that the United States supports Lebanese legitimacy, and places all its capabilities at Lebanon's disposal. He also said President al-Jumayyil can be assured of U.S. support for him, of the U.S. contribution to bring about the success of the cease-fire and to achieve the subsequent phases of the agreement.

President al-Jumayyil replied to President Reagan during the telephone conversation, thanking him for his efforts and the efforts which the United States has made through its envoys, particularly Ambassador McFarlane and Ambassador Fairbanks. He also praised their efforts and their patience. He also thanked President Reagan in the name of the Lebanese people, in his name personally, and in the name of the Lebanese Government for the efforts which the United States has made.

President al-Jumayyil told President Reagan: We regard the cease-fire not as an end in itself, but as a beginning that achieves a first step in the peace process and that achieves our aims, which are still the same; namely, the departure of all foreign forces from Lebanese territories and Lebanon's restoration of its sovereignty and health.

President Reagan answered President al-Jumayyil by renewing U.S.support for these aims and his own understanding and absolute support for them. After that, UN Secretary General Peres de Cuellar spoke to President al-Jumayyil, congratulating him on this step and affirming the United Nations' readiness to help in whatever achieves and consolidates the cease-fire. President al-Jumayyil thanked Perez de Cuellar for his efforts, his appeals, and his endeavors to establish peace in Lebanon. President al-Jumayyil said: We might need the United Nations, especially in the present circumstances, to send observers at a future phase to consolidate the cease-fire.

Bandar, Khaddam Announce Agreement To End War

NC252106 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2050 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The latest report we have is a cable that has just been carried by REUTER from Damascus saying that Saudi Envoy Prince Bandar ibn Sultan and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam tonight announced that an agreement has been reached to end the war and to cease the fighting in Lebanon and to start a national dialogue among the disputing Lebanese parties. Therefore, that report was carried by REUTER from Damascus about 5 minutes ago. We announced it to you as it was carried from the Syrian capital. Pending the consolidation, rather the declaration of a cease-fire in an official, serious and final manner, some areas are still being subjected to shelling. The Army positions in Suq al-Gharb and Al-Qammatiyah are being subjected to artillery shelling.

Further on Announcement

NC252123 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2059 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] In addition to what we broadcast a short while ago citing REUTER from Damascus to the effect that Prince Bandar ibn Sultan and Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam tonight announced an agreement to end the state of war and to halt the fighting in Lebanon and to start a national dialogue among the disputing Lebanese parties, REUTER has just carried new details about this announcement, indicating that Prince Bandar and Khaddam made the announcement at a press conference held in Damascus. They said at the press conference: With the grace of God, this agreement was reached. President Amin al-Jumayyil will announce the provisions and details of the agreement. According to REUTER, Khaddam described this agreement as an historic deed and a great thing which will have effects and repercussions not only on the Lebanese arena, but also in the entire area. He appealed to all the Lebanese parties to sit down for a national dialogue, to work for the unity of Lebanon's people and territory, for the consecration of its Arab affiliation, and for rebuilding Lebanon. According to another REUTER cable from Damascus, Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad has now received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Citing Saudi diplomatic sources, REUTER says that Prince Bandar is expected to return to Saudi Arabia tonight.

Saudi King Telephones Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan

NC252140 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2130 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpt] President Amin al-Jumayyil received a telephone call from His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz a short while ago. King Fahd wished Lebanon success in light of the agreement that was reached tonight. His Majesty King Fahd expressed the Kingdom's readiness to put all its capabilities at the disposal of Lebanon to help it in riding out the tragedy. His Majesty King Fahd also spoke to Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan for the same purpose. President al-Jumayyil and Prime Minister al-Wazzan thanked King Fahd in the name of the Lebanese Government and people for the effort that his majesty made to reach an agreement which would restore calm and reassure the country. The president and the prime minister also expressed thanks for the efforts that Prince Bandar ibn Sultan made and which produced a cease-fire.

Beirut: Official Statement on Agreement Clauses

NC252311 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The following is the text of the official statement that was issued tonight containing the clauses of the agreement that was reached tonight:

After the meeting that was held between his excellency the president of the republic and his excellency the prime minister to discuss the results of the Saudi mediation, it was decided to announce the following:

Proceeding from the discussions and contacts that took place in the Arab capitals of Beirut, Damascus, and Riyadh regarding establishing a joint visualization for searching for the most suitable solutions to rescue the deteriorating situation on the Lebanese arena and out of eagerness to stanch blood, halt the fighting, and establish peace in all parts of the Lebanese Republic, preparatory to achieving a comprehensive national accord that will constitute the permanent basis for an honorable coexistence among the Lebanese people in a strong, tenacious unity that will be a guarantee for the establishment of the state's sovereignty over all Lebanese territories and for setting up a balanced government, an agreement has been reached on the following:

1. To cease fire immediately in all the Lebanese territories and on all the axes and contact points. The cease-fire will be supervised by neutral observers in the fighting areas. To facilitate the return of the Lebanese refugees since 1975 up to now to their homes. Arrangements for relief operations will be worked out.

2. To form a committee from the following parties: the Army, the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement to draft the arrangements for the cease-fire and to consolidate it.

3. That the president of the republic calls for an urgent and comprehensive meeting to start the national dialogue immediately. The meeting will include from the National Salvation Front: Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, Walid Junblatt; from the Lebanese Front: Camille Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil: from Amal Movement: Nabih Birri; as well as Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil 'Usayran, and Raymond Iddih.

4. The president of the republic will be pleased to welcome the presence of a delegate from fraternal Syria and Saudi Arabia [to the dialogue]. The official delegation will include, in addition to the president, representatives of the legislative and executive authorities.

The cease-fire will become effective as of 0600 26 September 1983.

SPA Report on Agreement; Bandar Statement

LD252139 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 2040 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Damascus, 25 Sep (SPA) — This evening his Royal Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz'senvoy, met with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian deputy prime minister and foreign minister. The meeting was attended by Walid Junblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party. After the meeting a statement declaring a cease-fire in all Lebanese territories, axes, and points of contact [nuqat at-tamas] was issued, on the condition that neutral observers would supervise the cease-fire in fighting regions.

The statement includes the formation of a committee of the Army, the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement to make the arrangements for the cease-fire. Following is the text of the cease-fire statement:

On the basis of the discussion and contacts carried out in the Arab capitals of Beirut, Damascus, and Riyadh to find a common perception of the most suitable solution in order to save the deteriorating situation in Lebanon and out of concern to save lives, stop the fighting, and establish peace in all parts of Lebanon as a starting point to achieving a comprehensive national reconciliation that would be a firm basis for the sons of the Lebanese people to coexist in a strong and conhesive family and a guarantee for spreading the state sovereignty and a balanced rule over the whole of the Lebanese territory, the following has been agreed:

1. An immediate cease-fire in all Lebanese territories, axes, and points of contact. The cease-fire will be supervised by neutral observers in fighting regions. The return of Lebanese evacuees since 1975 until now to their homes is to be facilitated and arrangements for relief work made.

2. A committee composed of the following parties is to be set up to make arrangements and establish a cease-fire: The Army, the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, the Amal Movement.

3. The president of the Republic of Lebanon calls for an urgent and comprehensive meeting to start the national dialogue immediately. The meeting will include from the National Salvation Front Messrs Sulayman Franjiyah, Rashid Karami, and Walid Junblatt; from the Lebanese Front Messrs Camille Sham'un and Pierre al-Jumayyil; and from the Amal Movement Nabih Birri, Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil Usayran, and Raymond Iddih.

4. The president of the Republic of Lebanon would be pleased to welcome delegations from sisterly Syria and Saudi Arabia.

His Highness Prince Bandar ibn Sultan made a statement to the newsmen in the plane before he arrived in Damascus. In it he stressed that the Kingdom's mediation to solve the conflict in Lebanon is due to the efforts of His Majesty the exalted King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and his constantly following the conflict in Lebanon. He said that the Kingdom has continued its mediation to solve the dispute in Lebanon, stop the bloodshed, and find solutions that guarantee the independence and unity of Lebanon.

He added that the results accomplished by the committee were humanitarian for stopping bloodshed and patriotic because they safeguard Lebanon to make it independent and unified.

He pointed out that the national conference will be chaired by the president of the Lebanese Republic and all the sides and independent personalities will take part.

He said that the Lebanese president will announce the details of the cease-fire agreement tonight from Beirut.

Monte Carlo: Socialist Source on Agreement

JN252032 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] In Damascus, Lebanese socialist sources close to Walid Junblatt have stated that the cease-fire agreement calls for holding a national conference to be attended by representatives from the Lebanese Front, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement in addition to four Lebanese figures: Sa'ib Salam, 'Adil Usayran, Raymond Iddih, and Munir Abu Fadil, deputy speaker of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies. It was also agreed that President Amin al-Jumayyil will preside over the meetings for national dialogue with some Cabinet members who will be chosen by an agreement among all parties. There is also an appendix to the agreement which stipulates that the Lebanese Army will be deployed along the Damascus road until 'Alayh, and also along the coastal road. Gendarmerie forces will take up positions in Kafr Matta. The agreement also calls for the formation of a relief committee for all the victims of the war in the mountain and those who have been harmed by this war.

Junblatt Orders Forces to Observe Cease-Fire

NC252326 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2250 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] REUTER has just carried a report from Damascus on a statement by [Progressive Socialist Party leader] Walid Junblatt in which he said he has issued orders for a cease-fire as of 0600 on 26 September. Junblatt told journalists in Damascus — only a few minutes after Syria and Saudi Arabia announced the agreement on a cease-fire in Lebanon — that his forces, the National Salvation Front, and the Amal Movement are committed to the cease-fire. Junblatt called on the fighters to abide by the cease-fire and to help in what he termed the political battle. He added that the cease-fire agreement has some positive points which could give Lebanon stability and reform and that the cease-fire is important for reaching a final settlement to the Lebanese problem. He said that the political battle could, however, be more difficult than military combat.

Al-Wazzan Announces Cease-Fire Agreement

NC260018 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2146 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Statement by Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan from Presidential Palace — live]

[Text] May this be a blessed hour! We have said it once before and we now repeat it: Enough, enough, and enough! Enough pain for the Lebanese! Enough destruction for them! Enough blood sacrificed by the Lebanese for a reason and for no reason! Enough!

Following a long series of contacts that have been made with kindness, we have attained good news which makes us rejoice in our pain and despite our wounds. We relay this news to all Lebanese: A cease-fire agreement has been reached to take effect at 0600 in the morning. We hope, and perhaps confidently so, that all yearn for this agreement and that all will ahdere to it.

In reaching this cease-fire agreement, we scrupulously adhered to essential matters, while we disregarded many things on which we could have dwelt. However, we disregarded these many things, but we did not cross the red lines pertaining to the very foundations of legitimacy in Lebanon and to Lebanese sovereignty.

On this day, we find ourselves at a new point of departure, just before the end of the fighting. However, we are at the outset of an action that is required of all of us and at all levels in order that we will build for Lebanon good hearts, infrastructure, and a bright future, so that we will offer Lebanon to our future generations, to our sons, and to our grandchildren!

On this occasion, we will not forget to thank those who have worked and those who have set out to help us by their enthusiasm and by facing up to their international or Arab responsibilities. Today, His Majesty King Fahd contacted his excellency the president and notified him of the result that has been achieved by the Saudi mediation — the positive result! His excellency the president and I have offered our thanks to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and to His Majesty King Fahd for all the kind efforts that have been exerted. We also offered our thanks to Prince Bandar for the patience that he has manifested and for the continuous efforts that he has exerted — efforts that have achieved this result for us. Furthermore, following President Reagan's call to him, his excellency the president conveyed to President Reagan the thanks of Lebanon's president, government, and people for the efforts that have also been exerted for this end.

We have also thanked the UN secretary general who has expressed readiness to continue to extend all facilities and all aid that lead to the success of the cease-fire and to the success of all its related executive measures.

As we convey to the Lebanese people this result which we have achieved, we cannot but salute all those who have worked and who have contributed to achieving this state of affairs that opens our hearts, because its spares our sons blood and because it spares us suffering and pain. This state of affairs will serve for us as a stepping stone that will enable us to forge ahead toward making the new step of construction. Perhaps this step will require a long time and perhaps it will be hard to make. However, it is imperative that we all endure it patiently and with all the sacrifices that the Lebanese people did not spare making in the past and that they do not spare making at present. The Lebanese people will continue making these sacrifices for the sake of Lebanon, for the sake of our sons, and for the sake of our grandchildren!

VOL Reports Minor Cease-Fire Violations

NC260533 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Up to the time when this news bulletin was prepared, it is possible to say that the cease-fire, which was postoponed from 1930 yesterday until 0600 today, has been 90 percent implemented. At 0606 today, three shells fell on Sibnay. At 0610, bursts of gunfire were directed from 'Alayh toward Suq al-Gharb lasting 5 minutes. At 0614, a shell fell between Al-Hadath and Al-Hazimiyah. At 0622, two shells fell in the College of Sciences perimeter, where the U.S. Marines and the Lebanese Army are stationed. At 0645, two shells were fired at the Jisr al-Basha area. Before the cease-fire went into effect, rockets fell at 0415 today on Kafr Shima, Wadi Shahrur, and Ar-Rawdah where fires broke out.

Beirut: Cease-Fire Holding

NC260805 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] A military source stated a short while ago that all parties are abiding by the cease-fire agreement and that the appropriate military quarters have not been notified so far of any incident in the areas where clashes had taken place and where calm is now prevailing. Only the Khayrallah police station in Dahr al-Wahsh was exposed to some sniper fire. The army positions in 'Ayn ar-Rummanah, near 'Alayh, were exposed at 0700 to sniper fire from the western quarter in 'Alayh. Traffic is gradually returning to normal in the southern suburb where the Lebanese Army forces returned to their positions after gunmen had withdrawn.

Israeli Planes Overfly Beirut 26 September

NC260916 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] At about 1010 today Israeli planes flew over the capital and broke the sound barrier before turning south. At 0930 an Israeli force made up of two tanks and six personnel transport vehicles came from the Al-Awwali area toward Ar-Rumaylah township.

Reaction to Cease-Fire Agreement, Talks

AN-NAHAR Article

NC260824 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The newspaper *An Nahar* today discusses the cease-fire agreement and attributed the following points to some observers:

1. It is certain that the regime has disregarded many matters that could have been dealt with, but it did not cross the redlines pertaining to the continuity of legitimacy in Lebanon and to Lebanese sovereignty.

2. The regime has been eager to restore sovereignty over all Lebanese territory. This inevitably requires the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon.

3. Five parties will be invited to take part in the dialogue. These include the state as one party, including all its constitutional institutions. Its initiative in calling for a dialogue, in addition to other initiatives, and its legitimacy, which is indistputable, grants the state the status of a sponsor, although it is a party to the agreement.

An Nahar discusses the positive aspects of the agreement in comparison with the atmosphere that prevailed since the beginning of the negotiations. The paper says the atmosphere reached the point of convulsions, and there was a desire to disrupt the Lebanese Army's role and the constitutional institutions and to make Lebanon dependent on others. The objective was to move from the 'Alayh area through Suq al-Gharb to Ash-Shuwayfat and the southern suburbs to overthrow the regime. This plan was known to Saudi Arabia through information and reports received from international quarters. Therefore, Saudi Arabia was eager to maintain its mediation in spite of the obstacles.

An-Nahar says that in addition to the Saudi role there were two factors that changed the equilibrium. The first was the Army's steadfastness, which froze the military situation. This surprised many at the local, Arab, and international level. This is because the Army was born 6 months ago and its capabilities are limited, while the size of the confrontation is great.

The other factor was the political steadfastness in the negotiations and the regime's rejection of anything detrimental to the political and security spheres. There was a request that the Army should return to its barracks and be reorganized in a national form. It was also requested, as the paper says, that the constitutional institutions be disrupted and that the president should attend the dialogue as a party to the agreement with the Chamber of Deputies or his government. The answer was a rejection. The text of the draft agreement was amended, enabling the president to attend at the head of a delegation of legislative and executive authorities.

The conditions set included that the dialogue should be held in Damascus, that Syria should nominate some politicians, and that Syria and its allies should be consulted over appointing the prime minister of the new government. The regime naturally rejected these conditions out of its firm conviction that it is entrusted with upholding the Constitution on one hand and the Army's dignity on the other. Concerning the names of those invited to take part in the dialogue, the regime had specified these and other figures preparatory to calling for a dialogue.

The source says the cease-fire is supposed to be followed by the beginning of the withdrawal of alien armed men from the mountain area. International observers will supervise this operation and the cease-fire implementation.

In a telephone contact last night between President al-Jumayyil and the UN secretary general, Lebanon asked that a group of UN observers be sent soon. Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, who returned to Beirut yesterday, made contacts for ensuring that 500 observers are sent, including French and Italians, to supervise the cease-fire, ensure the withdrawal of foreign forces from the mountain, and intervene if necessary.

An-Nahar attributes to a Lebanese source that participated in yesterday's negotiations in Damascus, following a contact it had with the source from Paris, a statement saying that the first practical step will be the meeting of the security committee and that the meeting will be held soon, maybe today. As to the venue of the meeting, it will be in the field, perhaps in the area of the mountain battles. The venue will not be defined in advance for security reasons. Concerning the national conference, it was learned that a preparatory committee, whose members will be nominated by the parties taking part in the conference, will be formed and will meet to draw up preparations and details and to fix the venue and time of the conference. The source says these details are not considered a problem.

RFL Criticizes Agreement

NC260941 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 26 Sep 83

["Detailed Political View" by RFL Director Saj'an al-Qazzi — live or recorded]

[Text] All the people want a cease-fire, but they do not want this agreement. They want a cease-fire because they are fed up with fighting, but they do not want this agreement because it does not embody the aspirations of a people who have been fighting for 8 years for their freedom and sovereignty. However, what draws attention is that the Lebanese parties — officials and leaders — which accepted the agreement were themselves not convinced by it — just like the people. This creates a somewhat satisfactory impression that the agreement is one of two things: It is either a temporary truce whose political provisions are not significant, or it is just a front for other deeper agreements that have remained secret for fear that they will be burned by the sun of information. On the basis of information that we gathered throughout last night, it is possible to say that the agreement is both, in the sense that it will remain a temporary truce if intentions remain false, and it may become a liberation plan if intentions are proved true.

Why did the cease-fire take place today? There are many reasons, the most significant of which are the following:

1. The appearance of exhaustion in the ranks of all the warring forces. Several monitored radio contacts confirm this matter.

2. The increase in the dreadful wave of migration among the Druze and Christians.

3. The economic situation — or more precisely the living conditions — in the country have reached a delicate stage rarely witnessed by Lebanon in the past years of war.

4. The feeling of the local and regional parties that they have lost control of the military game and that they could do something in the political arena.

5. The arrival of the battleship *New Jersey* in Lebanese waters amid reports about its enormous military capability.

6. The renewal of the Palestinian-Syrian conflict in the Al-Biqa' and the north within the framework of the dispute over the possession of the Palestinian card.

7. The appearance of Palestinian-Druze differences in the mountain because of the traditional Druze's rejection of Palestinian penetration into their areas.

8. The appearance of differences between Amal and the communist organizations in the southern suburb.

9. Saudi pressure on Damascus to accept a cease-fire otherwise Riyadh would have frozen its mediation and stopped its financial aid to Damascus.

10. The direct U.S. threat that McFarlane conveyed to the Syrian officials during his last visit to Damascus 3 days ago that the United States insists on the need for the achievement of a cease-fire before Tuesday, when the U.S. Congress is scheduled to vote on the compromise solution for keeping the Marines in Lebanon for 18 months.

If these were the minor and major reasons that prompted the parties to accept such an agreement, what will the cease-fire achieve? Many things could be realized, and these things are perhaps the main reasons that prompted the Lebanese Government to accept an agreement of this kind. The most significant of these possible achievements are:

1. Ending the siege on Dayr al-Qamar and improving its security and living conditions, and effecting the return of the evacuees — which is something that we must not underestimate, because no one knows the misery of homelessness except themselves.

2. Equipping the Lebanese Army with modern weapons, which could include modern aircraft, and organizing the partisans [al-ansar], thus increasing the number of the legitimate combat forces.

3. Reviewing the positions of some military, information, and political officials who have contributed to the involvement of the state in some uncomfortable political, military, and information stances.

4. Attempting a separation between some Lebanese leaders and foreign sides in the light of an assessment by these leaders in a calm security atmosphere following the dreadful bloody wave.

5. Moving the problem from the marginal issues — that is, the cease-fire — to the basics, that is, the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon. Washington could exploit the cease-fire and the pressure it exerted on Syria and approach Israel with the demand for other withdrawals from the south without adherence to the simultaneous withdrawals program.

6. Giving time for the development of the U.S. position toward Lebanon, thus providing time for the U.S. Administration to make U.S. public opinion accept military intervention. Lebanon would also benefit by launching an information campaign in Europe and the United States to explain its cause, since it has been displayed as a civil war by the foreign information media. In this regard, it has been reported that Lebanese President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil may himself go to the United Nations to deliver Lebanon's speech and return back immediately should the cease-fire continue to hold until then.

7. The possibility of improvement taking place in the channels of communication between Lebanon and Israel in light of the experience of the recent war, which proved the benefits of Lebanese-Israeli understanding.

So, there are 10 significant reasons which prompted the parties to accept a cease-fire, and there are 7 positive things which will take place if the cease-fire succeeds. However, the problem remains in the agreement itself, which was imposed on Lebanon, just as the so-called constitutional document was imposed on it in February 1976 and the Bayt ad-Din, the Cairo, and the Riyadh conferences were imposed on it in the past. How can Lebanon be pleased to invite fraternal Syria to attend a national meeting while Syria constitutes the principal enemy of Lebanon today, and it was described by the president of the republic about 24 hours ago in an interview with the Italian television as the cause of all the troubles in Lebanon? Three quarters of those invited to the salvation dialogue are likewise responsible for all the past and present troubles of Lebanon. How can they contribute to Lebanon's future happiness? We do not accept that our future should be decided by Sulayman Franjiyah, who has sold himself to the Syrians, by Walid Junblatt, who is working in support of the murderers of his father, by Rashid Karami, who dismantled the Lebanese Army, and by Raymond Iddih, who has been constantly slandering, through his statements and slips of the tongue, the martyrs who were dying so that he can live in a hotel. Had we known that the battleship *New Jersey* had come for the sake of this agreement, we would have told it to go back. Had we known that the United States had threatened Damascus for the sake of this agreement, we would have told it that there was no reason for these threats. Had we known that Saudi Arabia had exerted pressure on Syria for the sake of this agreement, we would have told it that there was no reason for such pressure. What did Syria give up that required McFarlane's threats and Bandar's pressures?

The agreement is incompatible with the dreams of the steadfast people, with the fighting Lebanese Army, and with the defending Lebanese resistance. It does not realize the aspirations of the loyalists nor the aspirations of the opposers. It does not realize the aspirations of the government or the people. Everyone regards it as an approach from the window and not from the door either toward a solution which is still unknown or toward a war whose fire is still raging.

All of this is correct. But what is also correct is for us to be realistic. This agreement, in the final analysis, must not be given more credit than it deserves. We must not even view it from the standpoint of negatives and positives. It just constitutes an opportunity to revive the political solution, no more, no less. It does not constitute a gain for anyone practically, while it constitutes a loss for everyone theoretically. By the way, Syria accepted this agreement because it thought that Lebanon would reject it. However, the president of the republic, who uncovered the Syrian plan, accepted it, although he was aware of all of its defects and gaps. He accepted it on the basis that this agreement is not important. What is more important is the withdrawal of the foreign forces from Lebanon, and this is what President Reagan and King Fahd have emphasized to the Lebanese President. While we have no confidence in foreign guarantees, even if they come from the highest levels, we have confidence in President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil, in the Lebanese Army, and in the Lebanese resistance — and the three need time for a new drive of hope.

Al-Jumayyil Notes Soviet Presence in Lebanon

NC250954 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0945 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] In an interview with the *Los Angeles Times* today President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil declared that Lebanon is currently fighting the Warsaw Pact forces. He affirmed that he has evidence proving the presence of many Soviet military experts in Lebanon, particularly in the areas under Syrian control. He said that these experts supply the National Salvation Front under the leadership of Walid Junblatt, with technology and the necessary military advice.

Late Report: Al-Wazzan Offers Resignation

NC261245 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1244 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Cabinet session ended a short while ago. It was learned that Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan tendered the resignation of his government to the president. Details as available.

Al-Wazzan Statement

NC261251 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1248 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] At these moments Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan is delivering a statement at the Presidential Palace explaining the reasons that led him to tender the resignation of the government and clarifying some questions pertaining to the cease-fire agreement reached yesterday.

Damascus Announces Cease-Fire Agreement in Lebanon

JN252325 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2215 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] A cease-fire agreement was announced this evening to end the war and begin the national dialogue between the conflicting sides in the Lebanese arena. This came in a news conference held by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz' envoy, in the presence of Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs. Rafiq al-Hariri, the Saudi envoy's assistant, and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus, also attended the conference which was held at the Foreign Ministry at 2300 yesterday evening, Sunday.

At the beginning of the conference, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: For several years, Lebanon has been plagued by a crisis that nearly destroyed the existence of this fraternal country, disturbed its security and stability, and drained the blood of its sons. This threatened the future of this Arab country and had adverse effects not only on the Arab-Lebanese people but also on the entire Arab nation. One of the results of this crisis, which the fraternal country experienced, was the bloody civil war that weakened the body of the small fraternal country. This enabled the Israeli enemy to infiltrate and launch an attack on June 1982 imposing restrictions on Lebanon in accordance with the agreement and as a consequence of the eruption of the recent fighting.

Khaddam added: His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz held contacts out of their concern for the seriousness of the situation in Lebanon and out of their pan-Arab and brotherly responsibility toward the brothers in Lebanon. As a result of these contacts, an agreement was reached to end this civil war and, consequently, the formation of a framework that would restore to our beloved people in Lebanon their national unity in order to take up their natural place in the Arab homeland. Several contacts were held between Riyadh, Damascus, and Beirut. Contacts were also made among the various Lebanese sides urging them to achieve an agreement. As a result of these contacts and following the exerted efforts, an agreement was reached, thanks be to God, to end the war and the fighting and begin the national dialogue between the disputing sides.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister explained that an historic deed has been achieved that is bound to have effects on all of us. In this regard, we appeal to our brothers in Lebanon in their various positions, to rise to the level of national responsibility above the wounds, blood, and the destruction in order to rebuild this country together and in order to forward this fraternal country toward its natural place.

Khaddam pointed to the efforts exerted by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and King Fahd, and Prince Bandar ibn Sultan's serious and real effort to reach an agreement. He said: The cease-fire in Lebanon and the start of national dialogue for an agreement between the various sides is an historic deed not only in the history of Lebanon, but also in the history of the region at large. We hope that our brothers in Lebanon will realize the meaning of this.

Khaddam said: We shall exert all our efforts to render national dialogue a success and to enable Lebanon to return to what it used to be, a fraternal, independent, and unified country which will stand at our side against all foreign designs, foremost of which are the Israeli designs.

After this, Prince Bandar announced that thanks to the directives of President Hafiz al-Asad and Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, a cease-fire agreement was reached today which is to be immediately followed by a conference on national dialogue. He also stated that President Amin al-Jumayyil will announce the details of the agreement in Beirut tonight. Prince Bandar added: On behalf of His Majesty King Fahd, the Saudi Government, and its people, I would like to greatly thank His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, President al-Jumayyil, all the Lebanese brothers, and my dear brother, His Excellency Minister Khaddam, for the spirit of cooperation he has shown and the great efforts that had been exerted to reach an agreement for stopping the bloodshed and putting an end to the destruction that has befallen Lebanon. We hope that this will be the beginning of the road for settling the Lebanese problem in all its aspects, liberating Lebanon from the Israeli occupation, and safeguarding Lebanon's territorial integrity, independence, and stability.

Prince Bandar added that Saudi Arabia—king, government, and people—appeals to the Lebanese brothers to work for solving all the problems that they are facing through dialogue, in a spirit of brotherhood, and out of a sense of responsibility toward the supreme national interests. He said: We believe that the results that had been achieved, thanks to the efforts of all the brothers, will, God willing, be a beginning of the work for achieving Arab solidarity which Syria and Saudi Arabia are seeking. Prince Bandar stressed that what took place during the past few days is a historical deed because it concerns a noble goal—that of ending the bloodshed in Lebanon—and a national deed, because it safeguards the Arab nation's entity. We hope that efforts will be exerted to assist the brothers in Lebanon to emerge from the national dialogue with positive results so as to enable the Lebanese authorities to impose its sovereignty over all the Lebanese territories, and to establish a balanced rule that will give all the members of the Lebanese people their rights.

Concluding the press conference, Prince Bandar reiterated his thanks to 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and to the press.

King Fahd Telephones Al-Asad on Agreement

JN252355 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2315 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz contacted President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone this evening and congratulated him on the achievement of the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon and the start of a national dialogue between the disputing sides. King Fahd thanked the president for his sincere efforts that made this agreement possible. The president thanked His Majesty King Fahd, valued his efforts and the efforts of Saudi Arabia, and praised cooperation between Syria and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the interest of Lebanon and the Arab nation.

Prince Bandar Thanks Al-Asad for Efforts Toward Pact

JN252357 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2315 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad has received Prince Bandar ibn Sultan, the envoy of Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. The meeting was attended by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs; Rafiq al-Hariri; and the Saudi ambassador in Damascus.

Prince Bandar thanked His Excellency President Al-Asad for the efforts that were exerted by Syria to assist in reaching the cease-fire agreement in Lebanon and beginning a national dialogue. Prince Bandar outlined the importance of this agreement and its benefits to Lebanon.

President al-Asad praised the current cooperation between Syria and Saudi Arabia and asked him to convey his best wishes to Saudi King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Official Source Denies Reports on 3-Way Summit

JN251608 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1600 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] An official Syrian source today commented on the reports regarding a possible tripartite summit between Lebanon, Syria, and Saudi Arabia. The Syrian source said: These reports are false and fabricated, and any reports now about such a summit are baseless. He added that the idea of convening a summit is not a topic of discussion at present.

AL-BA'TH Views Lebanese National Accord Attempts

JN260802 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0345 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Lebanese National Accord Once again," the newspaper *Al-Ba'th* writes: In the maze of the divergent events which have encompassed the Lebanese question as a result of the Lebanese regime's wagering on the U.S. role and adherence to the U.S.-Zionist scheme drawn up for the region, national accord remains the basis for any solution to the question. The desire for accord and the serious work to achieve it remain an extremely accurate yardstick. The closer this or that side approaches this accord, the more it proves its patriotism, Arabism, and nationalism, and vice versa.

While discussing the basis of a sound solution, which was and is still a popular demand, we must pause and comprehensively review the stands which have emerged in the Lebanese arena — at least during the past few years. National accord has been a verbal invitation submitted by the isolationist side for local consumption and to conceal its involvement in the U.S.-Zionist scheme. National accord has been a sincere demand in which the nationalist party, which worked for the homeland, people, and nation, believed. The factional minority, represented by the facist Phalangist regime, believe that an accord must have certain conditions — conditions which chage upon transition from one stage to another along the path of implementing the scheme of Zionization. The sole condition of accord is that it protects Lebanon from Zionization and Americanization and entrenches Lebanon's Arab affiliation so that this country can carry out its duty toward the battle of destiny. The overwhelming majority has repeatedly announced this condition, emphasized its adherence to it, and expressed its strong defense of it.

The overwhelming majority, represented by its fighters in the mountain area, Ash-Shuf, and Beirut, is now waging the battle of defending this condition for national accord. This majority is thus facing the present Lebanese regime's relinquishment of the homeland and accord and total dependence on the U.S. and Multinational Force fleets and the Zionist invasion army. The regime officially relinquished the homeland when it signed the contract of submission and paved the way for the U.S. militarism to intensify its presence in the region under various pretexts aimed at containing the sincere nationalist efforts to achieve accord and at preventing the nationalist forces from rescuing the homeland from the yoke of factional hegemony.

The Phalangist minority, which obstructed accord before assuming power and which is still obstructing it from its position of power, does not want Lebanon to be the homeland of all or to be united in both land and people. This minority wants and works for the continuation of destruction, partition, and complete handover of Lebanon to the U.S. and Zionist partners. Therefore, the U.S. military concentrations are getting stronger day after day. These concentrations were crowned yesterday with the arrival of the New Jersey, the largest U.S. warship, to the Lebanese shores. What for? Does the regime and its U.S. and Zionist protectors want to impose an accord under the fire of the warships and NATO aircraft? By doing so, this regime proves its attempt to blow up the conditions for a sound national accord and its insistence on seeing matters with one eye. It is the eye which recently made Haig say that the United States should not leave Lebanon before partitioning it.

The will of the overwhelming majority in Lebanon is stronger than the alliance made by the partners to the contract of submission. This majority will continue its struggle until the contract and the U.S. scheme are toppled for the sake of achieving a national accord which can restore Lebanon's Arabism and both national and pan-Arab role.

APC Meeting Urges Arabs To Strike at U.S. Interests

JN250822 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Damascus — The Arab People's Conference [APC] representatives held an extraordinary meeting at the conference hall of the International Confederation of the Arab Trade Unions [ICATU] in Damascus last night under the chairmanship of 'Umar al-Haidi, secretary of the APC general secretariat, and in the presence of Humayyid Jallud, secretary general of ICATU.

Comrade Ahmad Hilwani, Ba'th Party representative in the APC General Secretariat, made a speech in which he said: The battle in Lebanon is the battle of the Arab nation in its confrontation of the isolationist forces which are linked with the U.S. and Zionist enemy, and the battle of the forces of steadfastness and liberation against the Zionist and U.S. plan of hegemony over the entire Arab nation. He affirmed Syria's support for the Lebanese nationalist forces saying that these forces will not yield to the fascist Phalangist party.

Referring to the U.S. threats against Syria, Al-Hilwani said: They threaten Syria with their fleets, gunboats, and planes but the enemies of the Arab nation, such as the Americans, the Zionists, and agents, should know that Syria's stand is principled uncompromising, and irrevocable.

Speaking on behalf of the Lebanese National Salvation Front, George Batal asked the Arab liberation movement to revise its position in view of the serious developments in the Arab region. He affirmed the need to wage the battle against the interests of the U.S. imperialism in every Arab country by the Arab liberation movements so as to save the national liberation movement from its predicament and destroy every enemy presence in the Arab region from the Arab Gulf to the Atlantic Ocean.

George Batal was followed by Brother 'Abd al-Nuhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO Executive Committee member, who stressed the importance of the current Lebanese events at this juncture. He said: The PLO is directly concerned with the Lebanese events. We are assuming direct responsibility toward these events. Since 1977, we have been warning that the Middle East region is coveted by the U.S. imperialism, the Zionist enemy, and their agents. This prompted the U.S. imperialism to wreck the policy of international detente by signing the Camp David agreements, the autonomy plot, and the Israeli-U.S. strategic cooperation agreement, and by the strategic collusion between the United States and the reactionary Arab states through joint military committees between the United States on the one hand and Egypt, Sudan, Somalia, and Oman on the other.

Abu Mayzar added: These steps climaxed with the signing of the agreement of submission by the Zionist enemy and the Lebanese Government which was followed by this U.S.-West European invasion of Lebanon with the aim of striking at and liquidating the Lebanese nationalist movement and the Palestinian revolution and forcing Syria to its knees so as to forge the U.S. scheme in the Middle East.

Abu Mayzar pointed out that this U.S.-NATO invasion is being transformed into a turning point due to Syria's firm, free, and nationalist position. He said: Since the beginning, Syria has been standing at the side of our nation's pan-Arab rights. I remember what President Hafiz al-Asad told us during a meeting with him, namely: History will not forgive us if we allow the Lebanese-Zionist agreement to pass. Abu Mayzar added: Hence, the Syrian position has been the mainstay of Arab steadfastness against the U.S.-Zionist enemy.

During the meeting, Humayyid Jallud, ICATU secretary general, stressed the need to support the Lebanese Salvation Front and Syria in their heroic stand against the U.S.-Zionist invasion. On the Palestinian events, Jallud called for dealing with these events within a framework that will serve the Arab national liberation battle in Lebanon. He affirmed the need for forging an alliance between the Arab workers and the Arab national liberation movement in an effective move toward striking at and liquidating the U.S. imperialist interests over the entire Arab homeland. He also called on the Palestinian revolution to be an effective base for the Arab national liberation movement to realize more advanced national positions. He warned against leaving Syria and the Lebanese nationalist movement groups alone in the present battle against the U.S. imperialism and the Zionist enemy.

U.S. Policy, Stands Analyzed, Denounced

Damascus TV Commentary

JN242036 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Some believe that Washington can do anything, and this is why they are calling for a comprehensive U.S. military interference to save Lebanon and, consequently, to present it to the Unites States on a silver plate. This stand contains two great mistakes and a greater sin. The first mistake lies in their belief that Washington can do anything in Lebanon. It is sufficient for us to remind them of the U.S. difficulties in El Salvador, at the U.S. border, to realize that Washington's force is completely limited and relative. This force decreases every time it emerges as a brute force confronting just issues. This means that this force decreases when it clashes with the people's hopes and the legitimate aspirations of groups that possess the will, the decision-making, and the weapons to defend their issue or fulfill their hopes. El Salvador is not the only example, and there are other examples that are close to and far from El Salvador, whose victories over the Americans are still fresh in the world's memory.

The second mistake lies in their belief that the U.S. services are free; such services will have a price. No one can convince us that this price will not be a heavy one and that it will not be at the expense of our sovereignty, independence, our country's territorial integrity, and its entire existence. Such accounts are confirmed by the experiences of others with U.S. interference and with other imperialist interference that further complicate the crises of Lebanon and the region. These two crisis are the result of Washington's disavowal of the Palestinian people's rights and their insistence on controlling the Arab region and encroaching on its wealth. This confirms that the principles of freedom and justice are among the least concerns of Washington's actual policies. Consequently, Washington is the least concerned about Lebanon and its role as imagined by some sick minds whose own interests dominate all sound logic and national throught.

The U.S. monopolies and the capitalists of the industrial complex, especially the war complex, are the ones who dictate Washington's policies and in whose light the states' maps and borders in terms of partition, survival, and dispersion will be determined.

The greater sin lies in those who are aware of the size of the price of the U.S. services and in their agreement on these services. This is clear from what is being announced, disseminated, or leaked out, whether on the talk about hosting the U.S. military bases in

Lebanon, or about that arrogant and crazy welcome to the degree of destruction to Lebanon that would be caused by the U.S. military operations and its destructive machine, which can eliminate the opponents of the Lebanese legitimacy.

Some are daily calling on the United States to prove its credibility and to either pay attention to its interests or get angry, strike by using its fleets, and kill. Such people will only give miserable examples of their submission, misery, and desperation, and will only win our people's disgust — while our people are rapidly recalling the image of that Vietnamese giant whose ghost was embodies yesterday in the U.S. Congress during its discussion on the U.S. interference in Lebanon. But the serious point remains in that the delirium and madness of some, turns into a policy to be imposed on Lebanon under the slogans of sovereignty, unity, and entity rather than liberation, salvation, and dignity.

Damascus Radio Commentary

JN251452 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Hostile U.S. forces are continuing their escalation of the fighting which is raging in Lebanon by dispatching more warships and massing more NATO forces in Lebanese territorial waters and in military bases close to the areas of its hostile operations. It seems that the United States does not think of achieving a cease-fire and ending the shedding of Lebanese blood. It is only interested in entrenching its aggressive military presence, expanding its strategic deployment, and turning the so-called Lebanese bridgehead into a strategic area that will be used later in the aggression against Syria, and in spreding U.S.-European-Israeli hegemony over the Arab region.

Is it reasonable to say that this massive concentration of U.S. and NATO forces, so close to Lebanon, is confined to the declared objective; namely, protecting Amin al-Jumayyil's regime and the so-called claim of defending the U.S. Marines in Beirut? How is it possible to link this claim with what President Reagan and his Secretary of State Shultz have admitted to the effect that the United States has strategic interests in Lebanon? Is this not irrefutable proof that the United States and its allies want to achieve the objectives, which they are covering behind a thick curtain of the smoke of the fighting, that were ignited by the Phalangist regime against the Lebanese people and its nationalist forces?

The United States is trying to hide the facts and disseminate falsehoods on the real objectives of its hostile interference. If the United States really wants to achieve the so-called withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon why did it dispatch its forces and its allies' forces there; especially since it has asked Syria to withdraw its forces? Is this not blatant evidence that the United States wants to expel Syria in order to facilitate the entry of the NATO forces? Why has the hostile military interference by the United States and its allies escalated to the extent of shelling the nationalist forces' positions if there are no ill intentions to interfere in a private internal affair in Lebanon?

All the cards have been revealed and the objectives of the U.S. interference have been exposed to everybody. The United States is making preparations for a greater aggression against the Arab region in order to control its potentials, strike at its patriotic regimes, headed by Syria, liquidate the Arab liberation movement, and impose the imperialist-Zionsit plans on the Arab nation. To be more specific, the United States seeks to devour our region and to subjugate the masses of our nation. Moreover, it places the future of the nation and the region face to face with a fateful option from which there will be no escape; namely, to wage the comprehensive pan-Arab battle.

The behavior of the United States can only be described as aggressive and harboring challenges to the pan-Arab existence. This aggression necessitates that the proper response to it is confrontation. The fleets of aggression are wandering in the waters of one of our countries and are opening fire in support of U.S. and NATO forces that are stationed in the territory of this Arab country, Lebanon. These fleets are also opening fire in support of an agent regime which seeks to deprive Lebanon of its Arabism and to turn it into a base from which the forces of aggression would attack the entire Arab region.

In light of this situation, the Arab nation has only one choice; namely, to face its militant destiny and to promote it in order to meet the requirments of defending its existence and destiny, because any success achieved by the forces of aggression will pave the way for a wider and deeper interference. In return, to break any link in the chain of our pan-Arab struggle would be followed by the break of all the links. Therefore, what is urgently required at present is to bolster the steadfastness of the Lebanese nationalist forces and to strengthen the cohesion among all the factions of the Arab liberation movement. Of course, Syria will again assume its pan-Arab duty proceeding from its stand, which is represented by translating the slogan of the pan-Arab battle into a real situation on the physical map, because the danger against the Arab nation is comprehensive and there is no place that will be far from the source of that danger. What is taking place in Lebanon is only a spark that may cause a big fire if all the sons of the nation do not manage to extinguish it before it is too late.

'Responsible' Source Reacts to U.S. Decision on Aid

JN232135 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The Voice of America said today that a U.S. Senate subcommittee yesterday approved the cancellation of what the radio described as the latest U.S. aid to Syrian. This was done in response to Syria's position on the current events in Lebanon. The radio added that the U.S. Senate later unanimously approved a similar, but not binding, measure.

A responsible source at the Syrian Ministry of Economy and Foreign Trade has commented on this report by saying: We are surprised at the discussion and the adoption of such decision in the U.S. Congress because the U.S. Government, as is known, does not extend aid to Syria. However, the issue is pertinent to an old aid plan which the U.S. Government allocated for Syria from 1974 to 1976. Throughout previous years, the Syrian Government was unable to use this aid because the economic conditions imposed by the U.S. side make the use of such aid a burden not an assistance to Syria.

The source added: There is nothing that Syria regrets in this regard because we believe that by adopting such a decision, the U.S. Senate did not cancel an original aid plan to Syria. In fact, by raising this issue, the political dimensions of theU.S. intentions are not concealed from anyone.

Soviet Friendship Delegation Arrives 23 September

JN232055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text]The Soviet-Syrian friendship delegation arrived in Damascus today headed by Saidovich Saidov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and of the Tadzhik SSR Supreme Soviet. The head of the Soviet delegation praised Syria's role in confronting the vicious imperialist-Zionist onslaught against fraternal Lebanon and the Arab nation.

The head of the delegation noted that the celebration of Arab-Soviet friendship expresses the strong ties between the two friendly peoples and the prominent roles of leaders Hafiz al-Asad and Yuriy Andropov in the struggle of people who cherish peace and justice.

Action Planned Against PLO if Suq al-Gharb Falls

TA250915 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 25 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by military correspondent Mikha'el Gerti]

[Text] It looks like Israel will take action against the PLO if the Lebanese Army stronghold in Suq al-Gharb falls, opening a channel for a massive flow of terrorists into Beirut. This is clear from statements made by security sources, who said that Israel would take action if the fighting in Lebanon poses a risk to IDF soldiers. They cited the fall of the Suq al-Gharb area as one such instance.

It has been reported that the IDF is closely following the developments in the Ash-Shuf area and is particularly interested in the involvement of the Syrian Army and the terrorists.

Lebanon Cease-Fire Welcomed; No Official Comment

TA261242 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1221 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel reports that Jerusalem has reservations about the inclusion of a Syrian observer in the political committee for national reconciliation in Lebanon. Nevertheless, Israeli political officials this afternoon welcomed the end of the bloodshed in Lebanon. They refused to make any official comment about the contents of the cease-fire agreement.

Our correspondent adds that a Druze representative visiting in Jerusalem has said that the arrival of the U.S. battleship *New Jersey* accelerated the process leading to the cease-fire due to the fact that the Americans warned they would not hesitate to open fire from the ship's 400-mm cannons.

Ben-Me'ir on Cease-Fire

TA260716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Israel's deputy foreign minister, Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, welcomed news of the cease-fire agreements in Lebanon.

[Begin Ben-Me'ir recording] We certainly hope the cease-fire will hold up. As I mentioned in my remarks tonight, we fully support the efforts of the United States, of President Reagan, of his emissary Ambassador McFarlane, to bring about the cease-fire. Israel has been working behind the scenes. We have made throughout the time, I think, an important contribution. But again I think that for the future and for continuity it would be best not to give this any great publicity. Israel has made efforts in coordination with the United States in places where we can, where we have influence, to try to facilitate such a cease-fire. Let us all hope that the cease-fire will come into effect, that it will work, and that it will be a first step in solving the overall problem in Lebanon, the basis of which will be, of course, the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. This is the key to the chance for a future peaceful Lebanon and for the regaining of Lebanese sovereignty by its legitimate government. And we hope this will be a first step in the withdrawal of all foreign forces. Israel is ready, waiting to leave. And let us hope that Syria will see that her occupation of Lebanon has led only to bloodshed and nothing else, and will be ready to get its troops out of Lebanon. [end recording]

Speaking in Jerusalem last night, Ben-Me'ir said Israel was ready in principle to extend help to the United States in Lebanon, but there had been no U.S. requests for Israeli military aid. Reporter David Essing says the deputy foreign minister stressed Israel would not intervene in Lebanon's internal warfare. Ben-Me'ir also warned Lebanese Druze against aiding the PLO.

Junblatt, Al-Fahum Address Golan Druze Gathering

TA250716 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 25 Sep 83 p 1

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Qiryat Shemona — Walid Junblatt, leader of Lebanon's Ash-Shuf Mountain Druse, surprised thousands of Israeli, Syrian and Golan Heights Druse when he appeared at a gathering near the Majdal Shams border post to mark the death a week ago of Golan Druse Leader Kamal Kanj.

Speaking from a makeshift platform on the Syrian side of the border, Junblatt said the war is not only for the Ash-Shuf but for the whole of Lebanon.

"I warn you, the U.S., France, Italy, stop fighting us. You will be defeated like the French were beaten in Lebanon by the Druse at the beginning of the century," he said.

Junblatt spoke over a set of powerful loudspeakers which were clearly heard on the Israeli side of the border.

Khalid al-Fahum, the PLO's representative in Syria, stood at Junblatt's side. He said: "We have a blood brotherhood with the Druse, until all the occupied lands are liberated. We shall free all of Palestine."

Al-Fahum also attakced the American role in Lebanon.

The meeting was called to commemorate the death of Kanj, the 74-year-old pro-Syrian Golan leader who spent several years in Israeli jails after being convicted of spying for Syria.

From among the thousands of Druse who gathered on the Israeli side of the border there were shouts in support of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, and slogans attacking Israel such as "Palestine is Arab," and "the Golan is Syrian."

Those Druze attending had come from the Golan, Galilee and the Karmel area.

Moderate Golan Druze Reaction

TA251430 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1418 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Golan Heights, 25 Sep (ITIM) — The moderate Golan Heights Druze reacted today to the speech by Lebanese Druze leader Walid Junblatt who said on Friday during a memorial for

Shaykh Kamal Kanj that the "Druze have a blood alliance with the terrorists in Lebanon."

In their reaction the moderate Golan Heights Druze say: "We have linked our fate to that of the State of Israel and there was never, nor will there ever be, a blood alliance between the Druze and the Palestinians."

Abu Salah Salman, one of the moderates' leaders in Majdal Shams, told the ITIM correspondent that recently there have been cases of incitement against the moderate Golan Druze. "This incitement is being conducted under the encouragement and influence of the Syrians." Abu Salah complains that Israel has allowed the Syrians for the second time now to use powerful loudspeakers near the border, thus enabling the Syrian Druze to incite their brethren on the Golan.

The Golan Druze demand more protection and intervention by the security forces in what is happening on the Golan Heights so as to prevent an increase in the number of extremist circles.

Defense Ministry Denies Arms Supply to Druze

TA251450 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1445 GMT 25 Sep 83

["Defense Ministry Announcement" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem 25 Sep, (ITIM) — In answer to a question, security sources again denied reports by the media today that Israel had supplied arms and fighting equipment to the Druze forces.

Reports published on this issue are not true.

Druze Contacts Continue Despite 'Broken Promises'

TA251028 Tel Aviv Hatzofe in Hebrew 25 Sep 83 p 1

[Report from Jerusalem by the political correspondent]

[Text] Israeli representatives are continuing to maintain regular contacts with representatives of the Lebanese Druze even though they have broken promises to Israel.

For some time now Jerusalem has complained that Lebanese Druze leaders had promised, in meetings with Israeli representatives, not to allow the terrorists to enter the Ash-Shuf Mountains but have broken their word and so, the agreement notwithstanding, terrorists have been allowed to join in the fighting against the Phalangists and the Lebanese Army.

This was done under Syrian pressure because both Syria and the Soviet Union provide the Druze with arms.

Druze leader Walid Junblatt is now a puppet controlled by the Syrians, and he is unable to free himself of Syrian pressure. He is prepared to accept a cease-fire, but the Syrians are not allowing him to do so.

Phalangist Emissary Seeks Reassurance of Support

TA250740 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 25 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Landau]

[Excerpt] The Christian Phalange, defeated in the Ash-Shuf but still entrenched in the mountains to the north of Beirut and in the coastal areas to the south, hopes that its longstanding relationship with Israel will not deteriorate any further.

"We understand the Israeli position," says Phalange emissary Pierre Yazbak. "We understand that at a certain point Israel decided to dissociate itself from the Lebanese problem. We are not saying to you: 'Come back to the Ash-Shuf,' — but we do say that what is going on now should not destroy the whole relationship."

Speaking to *The Jerusalem Post* in Jerusalem on Friday, Yazbak made it clear that the Phalange (their formal designation is the Lebanese Forces) have no complaints about the flow of Israeli material aid to their units.

But they look ahead to a bleak future of political and physical struggle in faction-torn Lebanon, and they want to feel that their friendship with Israel has not been irreparably damaged by the stresses and setbacks of recent weeks.

Ultimately, says Yazbak, peace can return to Lebanon only through a process of constitutional reconciliation, in which each of the 16 separate communities obtains recognition and protection within a new juridical framework.

"Everything is open to negotiation as far as we are concerned," he asserts.

As far as the Druse are concerned, says Yazbek, "we distinguish between the Druse community's just claims and the pretensions of Druse leader Walid Junblatt to represent those claims." In fact Junblatt misrepresents the Druse claims, and does not rightly represent the Druse, Yazbak charges. Rather, he does the Syrians' bidding. And as long as the Syrians occupy much of Lebanon, says Yazbak, there will be no constitutional reconciliation between the warring factions.

Yazbak carefully avoids recriminations regarding Israel's policies in Lebanon. He does not refer explicitly to the now-renowned "swing," under Defence Minister Moshe Arens and his top Lebanon troubleshooter Uri Lubrani, away from the Christians and towards the Druse.

The most he will say is that the Phalange felt at certain times over the past year or so that the Arsalan family, historic rivals of the Junblatts, could have been helped by Israel to assume the leadership of the community. Israeli experts felt otherwise: they concluded that Junblatt was by far the more powerful and popular Druse leader.

Syrian Status in Lebanon Seen as 'Legitimized'

TA231142 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 23 Sep 83 p 14

[Commentary by Yosef Harif: "The Syrians Are No Longer 'Foreign Forces'"]

[Text] On Monday this week , U.S. Ambassador Samuel Lewis phoned Foreign Ministry Director General David Kimche and informed him about the deteriorating situation of the Lebanese Army at Suq Al-Gharb ("the southern gate to Beirut"), and about U.S. intentions to have F-14 fighters bomb the Druze forces and terrorists who were raiding Christian positions in that area.

Israel's introduction to the military secrets of the U.S. forces operating in Lebanon may be explained by the need to coordinate positions with Israel, because the IDF is supposed to act as it pleases against the terrorists in Lebanon, even if they are beyond the territory the Israeli forces occupy at present along the Al-Awwali River. Since Israel has not undertaken to inform the United States in advance about any such operation against the terrorists, the United States thought that Israel should be notified that U.S. aircraft were going to operate in the same region in order to avoid "clashing" with any possible Israeli operation in the same area.

However, it may very well be that the reality forced upon the United States in Lebanon is encouraging it to reassess its attitude toward Israel: It is no longer an element enabling the United States to exploit the changing situation in the area to benefit U.S. interests — at times, even at the cost of ignoring Israel's vital interests — but a real ally.

It should be said in favor of the United States that it is now trying to keep Israel in the picture: The bombardment Ambassador Lewis was talking about was not carried out that day because it turned out that U.S. gunboats off the Lebanese coast had "scored good hits" on the targets that had been chosen: convoys and units of terrorists which were moving toward Suq al-Gharb.

Now then, one should follow closely and see whether Washington's willingness to share secrets with Israel also constitutes proof of the fact that the U.S. Administration is having second thoughts about its moves in Lebanon in the past year, most of which proved to be fundamentally wrong.

The day after the United States declared that it would not allow Suq al-Gharb to fall, the ambassador again took pains to report to the foreign minister in Jerusalem about the latest developments, this time in the political sphere. It turned out that the Syrians — who had in principle not rejected the idea of a cease-fire and the establishment of a reconciliation committee made up of the warring factions in Lebanon, with Syrian and Saudi observers — had already on Monday tried to play the part of the "strong element" and dictate all the moves. With various excuses, the Syrians slowed down the debate about establishing a reconciliation committee aimed at promoting political negotiations and establishing a new government in Lebanon, where the Druze would be given proper representation. The Lebanese Government proposed that the reconciliation committee include Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Parliament Speaker Kamal al-As'ad. President al-Jumayyil contended that the Lebanese Government had the right to choose its own representatives. With its sky-high nerve and self-confidence, Syria said "no." The Syrians had other names, such as Sa'ib Salam. However, it seems that Syria mainly wanted to delay as much as possible the establishment of the reconciliation committee until the end of the battle over Suq al-Gharb. The Syrians hoped that within "1 day" the terrorists and Druze would finish their job and Suq al-Gharb would fall. Then they would really be able to dictate the next moves and make the Americans kneel.

The Syrians began to soften a little bit on Tuesday. Apparently, the Saudi negotiator managed to convince them that the Americans had not wanted to get dragged into the Lebanese struggle, but now that they were in it it was inconceivable that they should withdraw and stand idly by while the gates of Beirut were torn down by the terrorists, with the help of the Syrians. This might be too large a defeat, and a superpower like the United States cannot afford it.

It is not clear to us if at that stage the Syrians knew that the Americans would not hesitate to use all their aerial strength in the framwork of their "active defense" of the Marines. If this had been "suggested" to the Syrians, then they could have properly appreciated the significance such a development could have on the Americans' fighting "momentum." F-14's flown by U.S. pilots are not the same as old "Hunters" flown by Lebanese pilots.

The extension of the U.S. fighting parameters should have influenced Syria. First of all, the Syrians — who have been in an ideal situation so far, when their job was being done by others — did not want to take the devastating blow the Americans could deal them. Second, in Lebanon also the Syrians operate under the constant control of Soviet advisers — and the Soviets probably understood the U.S. "hints" issued by the White House.

The fear of both superpowers about war breaking out between Syria and Israel stemmed from their wish not to get dragged into a situation which would force one of them to rush to the aid of its "client." The Soviet Union has a security commitment to Syria anchored in the Syrian-Soviet friendship agreement of October 1980, which determined the nature of their mutual strategic cooperation. The United States has a security commitment to Israel. In sensitive situations, the United States always knew how to restrain Israel whenever it thought that Israel could deal such a powerful blow to Syria that it would force the Soviet Union to intervene. It is a fact that as long as Israel attacked the terrorists in Lebanon at the beginning of the war, and as long as its attacks on the Syrians were confined to the Lebanese region, the United States stood on the side and did not intervene. However, as soon as the Americans thought that the IDF was getting too close to Damascus, President Reagan sent an urgent message to Prime Minister Menahem Begin in the middle of the night and pointedly urged him to stop firing at once, and inform him about it "by 0600."

The Soviet Union is now facing an unprecedented situation. It is not Israel that is facing the Syrian lackeys — the battle may actually be expanded to include Syria itself — but the United

States. Can Moscow afford to rush to Syria's help in view of the new circumstances in Lebanon?

It seems that Washington consciously decided to expand its involvement because it is deeply convinced that the Soviet Union will not dare intervene. It should be remembered that strategic relations between the Soviet Union and Syria never focused on Lebanon, nor even on the Golan Heights (the fact is that the Soviet Union has persisted in its reservations about the Syrian invasion of Lebanon in 1976). Moreover, the Soviet Union will not risk its "possessions" in Syria as a result of the latter's entanglement in a war. It is clear that the strategic cooperation with Damascus is not at all related to the Syrian-Israeli conflict. It is a fact that the supply of Soviet arms to Syria was accelerated prior to the outbreak of the Lebanon war. The Soviets certainly want to undermine Israel's deterrence ability, which the Soviet Union regards — to our regret, the United States and the West do not always regard it so — as the element curbing their and their allies' expansion in the region. The main Soviet interest regarding Syria is to make it a link in the chain of countries lining up with the Soviet Union's global strategy: from Afghanistan to Libya, through the South Yemen Republic, Ethiopia, and so forth. It is a fact that the SAM-5's stationed in Syria can reach the NATO base at Incirlik in Turkey where there is a squadon of U.S. Phantoms. That fact is no less important — and actually more important — to the Soviet Union than intercepting an Israeli aircraft flying in Lebanese skies.

It is no longer a secret that Soviet advisers are deployed so thoroughly in Syria at present that there is hardly any activity undertaken by the Syrian Army which does not include Soviet advisers.

Therefore, it may be assumed that the Soviets will not allow the Syrians to go beyond a quasi-war. One gets the feeling that the United States' daring to throw its forces into the battle in the Lebanese area — although in very reduced numbers — may lead to a turning point in Lebanon and pave the way for a political arrangement, however feeble it may be, just to have the Druze forces and terrorists stay put and not dare break into Beirut.

Another question is: What does this mean in terms of the demand of the Lebanese Government for the pullout of "all foreign forces," a demand supported by the United States? What about restoring full sovereignty to the legal Lebanese Government? And what will happen to the Lebanese-Israeli agreement of which the United States is a guarantor?

It is doubtful that the United States itself knows the answers. Its attention is now directed at only one thing: bringing about a cease-fire and getting all the parties involved to start a dialogue in the framework of a reconciliation committee.

One thing is clear: Syria is no longer among "all the foreign forces" which must leave Lebanon. Indirectly, through Syria's participation in the reconciliation committee as an "observer," its status in Lebanon has actually been legitimized.

Generally speaking, the status of the Syrians — just like that of the Druze — in Lebanon is basically different from what it used to be until the IDF's evacuation from the Ash-Shuf area. Presumably, the United States has also reconciled itself to this situation and, therefore, the question is what will Israel's status be? Where will the United States stand when the demand is raised at the reconciliation committee to give legitimate status to the Syrians in Lebanon for their "security needs" while the call is madefor Israel's withdrawal? It seems that after its show of muscle in Lebanon — and only thanks to that will the sides agree "to make peace" — the United States no longer has to evince sensitivity to the Syrian demands. This reconciliation in Lebanon should not be at Israel's expense.

The sacrifice of Israel on the altar of a reconciliation in Lebanon will give nothing to the United States. It will not thereby gain Syria's heart. Only a year ago it tried to gain the heart of the terrorists at Israel's expense — and the results are known.

Arens Demands Embassy Withdraw Aid Request

TA251025 Tel Aviv Ma'ariv in Hebrew 25 Sep 83 pp 1, 11

[Report by 'Oded Granot, Ya'aqov Erez, and Yosef Walter]

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens is furious over the proposal submitted by the Israeli Embassy in Washington to the U.S. Administration that would decrease total military aid to Israel in 1985 in return for an increase in grants.

According to Israeli sources in Washington, the defense minister has demanded that the embassy economic representative withdraw the proposal. He claims that no one authorized the Israeli representatives in Washington to raise such a proposal before the Cabinet discusses it.

It has been learned that the defense minister even personally contacted Israeli representatives in the embassy to express his reservations and annoyance with the proposal.

The affair has caused some confusion and embarrassment at the Israeli Embassy in Washington. The concept underlying the proposal is that Israel, which is having increasing difficulties in repaying its debts to the United States, should make do with a smaller share of military aid, provided that this reduced aid is largely in the form of a grant.

Israeli circles in Washington claim the suggestion to decrease the aid was first broached with U.S. Administration officials during Ministers Arens' and Shamir's visit to Washington, and the Defense Ministry should have realized that the matter would be pursued in regular contacts between Israeli representatives and the administration.

According to Israeli sources in Washington, there will be no way out of raising the issue again in the Cabinet before Israel officially approaches the administration with a request to withdraw the proposal that has already been submitted, with all the embarrassment involved.

Defense Ministry Director General Menahem Meron left last week for Washington to urgently discuss the 1984 U.S. military aid to Israel with administration officials. *Ma'ariv* has learned that his departure was not planned and that he evidently was summoned to Washington as a result of difficulties in contacts between Treasury officials and U.S. Administration officials over the aid.

The 1983 military aid reached $1.7 billion, of which $850 million was a grant, and the remainder of which was a dollar linked credit line which can be used exclusively for the procurement of arms in the United States.

The main bone of contention between the United States and Israel involves Israel's demand [drishata] that parts of the equipment — such as the F-16's purchased for the IDF — be manufactured in Israel. The Pentagon is the main stumbling block in granting this request, and although the deal involving the purchase of 75 F-16's has already been signed, Jerusalem and Washington have not yet reached an agreement on the production of the parts in Israel.

Finance Minister to Washington

TA250741 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 25 Sep 83 p 2

[Report by the economic affairs correspondent]

[Text] Finance Minister Yoram Aridor is to meet with American Treasury Secretary Donald Regan on Wednesday for what the Finance Ministry defined as "preliminary talks" on U.S. aid to Israel for 1985. Aridor left Israel for Washington on Thursday. He was preceded by Ministry Director-General 'Ezra Sadan and the Bank of Israel Deputy Governor Yaqir Plessner.

According to the Treasury spokesman, neither Aridor nor Sadan will present the American Administration with concrete requests. But according to other Treasury sources, Israel will be looking for more grants in the total aid package. In addition, Israel will reportedly try to increase the total amount it receives as aid from the U.S., from $2.6 billion it will receive in the coming 12 months to some $3.2 billion in the October 1984, to the October, 1985, period.

Increased U.S. Aid Seen

TA251056 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 25 Sep 83 p 2

[Report by economic affairs correspondent Shlomo Ma'oz]

[Excerpts] Increased grants from the United States to Israel — up by $210 million — raise the prospect for still more U.S. aid for Israel in the years ahead, government officials said last week. Bank of Israel Governor Dr Moshe Mandelbaum will leave for the United States today for the International Monetary Fund meeting. Finance Minister Yoram Aridor left for the United States late last week, as did Deputy Bank of Israel Governor Dr Yaqir Plessner and Treasury Director General Prof 'Ezra Sadan.

Contrary to the fears expressed quite frequently in the media — that the United States would decrease its aid to Israel — in fact the Americans increase it every couple of years. In the fiscal year beginning in October it will reach a new peak — $2.61 billion. Last year Israel received $2.5 billion, and only a few years ago the overall aid amounted to a mere $1.8 billion. Government circles told *Ha'aretz* that Israel will encounter difficulties in the next few years in using all the military aid offered by the United States because the money at Israel's disposal must be used for military procurement in the United States. Israel would have preferred to have part of the military aid given free of this restriction in order to purchase arms in other places as well, or alternatively to produce the hardware in Israel itself.

Herzog Calls for Quick Agreement on Government

TA250748 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 25 Sep 83 p 3

[Report by Le'a Levavi]

[Text] Israel needs a stable and strong government, and quickly, because every day of delay is costing the country millions, President Hayim Herzog said during an interview on Israel Television Friday evening. He said that a national unity government would be desirable, but only if all parties to it can agree on a basic programme. Apportioning portfolios will not be enough, he said, adding "There would be no point in the Alignment joining the government based on the current programme, because it just will not work."

He said none of the parties rejected the possibility of Labour Party chairman Shim'on Peres being prime minister, but none (other than the Alignment itself) thought Peres could rally 70 or 80 Knesset members behind him. "I will not deny my past, and my feelings," the president, who had been active in the Labour party, said. "I looked for those 70 votes, but I could not find them... I have worked with Mr Peres for 35 years, particularly in defence, and I know perhaps more than others do the great contribution he has made to the defence of this country. On the other hand, I signed an undertaking as president and it is my job to think beyond partisan considerations."

Asked if he felt the status of the presidency had been undermined by the fact that Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir had guaranteed himself 64 Knesset votes, Herzog said there are some who may argue with the law or with the procedure, but that he understood why it was done. "As one of the parties explained to me, it was not so that Shamir could stand before the Creator on Yom Kippur and show his achievement."

Labor States Terms for Entering Shamir Government

TA260720 Jerusalem The Jerusalem Post in English 26 Sep 83 pp 1, 2

[Report by Joshua Brilliant]

[Excerpt] Tel Aviv — The Labour Party yesterday expressed readiness to negotiate the formation of a national unity government under the Likud's Yitzhaq Shamir, but with new policy guidelines.

In a letter to Shamir yesterday evening, Labour Party Chairman Shim'on Peres rejected an invitation to join the Likud and its present partners in a new-old cabinet under Shamir. Labour believes that the government was responsible for the economic deterioration and for the entanglement in Lebanon "and we can't be partners to its continuation," Peres wrote.

But Peres noted that Shamir's letter also talked about forming a national unity government based on a "joint plan of action" and formed in accordance with the balance of power between the Knesset factions.

It is with regard to that option that Peres said "we believe the nation's will for maximum unity should be exploited to the full."

Shamir responded with a letter to Peres late last night in which he proposed that he and Peres meet today to begin negotiations in which an effort would be made to "overcome differences" and "to reach an agreement on whatever is necessary for the formation of a national unity government." Shamir acknowledged that the formation of such a government would require agreement on policy guidelines, programmes of action and the distribution of portfolios.

In an impromptu press conference late last night, Peres said Labour will insist on acceptance of several demands before it joins the Likud in a government:

— Jewish settlement should be barred from densely-populated Arab areas in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

— Israel must terminate its military presence in Lebanon "as soon as possible." Such an evacuation should follow security arrangements to protect Galilee but should not be linked to Syrian actions or other outside dictates.

— The government must facilitate the resumption of the autonomy talks.

— An entirely new social and economic policy.

Labour will "insist" on these policies, Peres stressed.

Peres sent his letter to Shamir after Labour's leadership bureau voted 37 to 24 to "clarify positions" with the Likud, but before meeting with the top forums of MAPAM and the Citizens Rights Movement, Labour's Alignment partners.

MAPAM Rejects Unity Government

TA251444 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1435 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Labor Party's decision to hold clarifications on positions with the Likud is a grave error and smacks of trickery by each party to blame the other for the failure to form a national unity government. This was stated by MAPAM MK Victor Shemtov in reaction to the Labor Party Bureau's decision a short while ago. He emphasizes that MAPAM will not participate in negotiations to form a national unity government, and if the parties involved — the Labor Party and the Likud — indeed agree on common guidelines, MAPAM will withdraw from the Alignment.

Peres, Shamir To Meet

TA261008 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0954 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] It is almost certain that Shim'on Peres and Yitzhaq Shamir will meet this evening at 2030 [1830 GMT]. This was arranged a short while ago. The meeting will take place at 2030 this evening barring last-minute changes. Our correspondent Pe'erli Shahar reports that the meeting will be held in Jerusalem. As far as is now known, Peres will almost certainly be joined by Yitzhaq Rabin, Hayim Tzadoq, and Moshe Shahal.

Majority Favors National Unity Government

TA260927 Tel Aviv Ha'aretz in Hebrew 26 Sep 83 p 1

[PORI poll]

[Text] A decisive majority favors the establishment of a national unity government, according to a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the PORI Institute and commissioned by *Ha'aretz*.

To the question "are you for or against the establishment of a national unity government composed of the two largest parties, the Likud and the Alignment," 72.4 percent replied affirmatively whereas 18.4 percent answered in the negative. Some 3.2 percent said they would decide according to the person who heads such a government,and the remaining 6 percent did not have an opinion either way.

An analysis of the findings based on voting trends shows that voters of all parties support a national unity government although there are quite some differences among them. Whereas 74.1 percent of the Likud voters are in favor of a national unity government, only 66.6 percent of the Alignment voters subscribe to this idea.

Among voters of parties which are current members of the coalition, National Religious Party voters are particularly in favor (some 78.3 percent) whereas TAMI and Agudat Yisra'el voters are more reserved about it. Only 50 percent of the TAMI voters and 55 percent of the Agudat Yisra'el voters are in favor of a national unity government.

The greatest support for a national unity government (82.8 percent) was registered among the "swing votes," those who cannot state today for which party they would vote in elections. The poll was conducted on a representative sample of 1,200 men and women over the age of 18 who were interviewed individually throughout the country.

ALGERIA

President Receives Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy

LD251438 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] President Chedli Bendjedid this morning received the envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, Secretary of Justice Muhammad [as heard] az-Zuwayy. The meeting was attended by the ambassadors of both countries.

Angolan Defense Minister Colonel Tonha Arrives

LD260942 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Algiers, 26 Sep (APS) — Colonel Pedro Maria Tonha, member of the Poltiburo of the MPLA-Labor Party and minister of defense of the People's Republic of Angola, arrived in Algiers at noon yesterday on a working visit. The Angolan defense minister was received by Mustafa Benlousif, member of the Central Committee and the secretary general of the Ministry of National Defense,accompanied by the commander of the Seventh Military Region and the ambassador of the People's Republic of Angola in Algeria.

LIBYA

Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Meets With Counterpart

LD232014 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1616 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, Sept 23 (TANJUG) — The all-round development of Yugoslav-Libyan relations, particularly in economic and scientific-technical cooperation, was the focus of the talks resumed here in Tripoli today, Friday, between Yugoslav Foreign Secretary Lazar Mojsov and Libyan Secretary of the Bureau for External Relations 'Abd al-Ati al-'Ubaydi. An exhaustive exchange of views was made on the occasion on the situation in the Middle East and in Africa. The need was noted for investing additional efforts on the part of the nonaligned towards seeking peaceful solutions and eliminating crisis spots in these world regions. Lazar Mojsov is on a brief working visit to Libya.

Makes Statement, Departs

LD231708 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1535 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Sep (JANA) — SFRY Federal Secretary for Foreign Affairs Lazar Mojsov left Tripoli this afternoon after a visit to the Jamahiriyah, during which he conveyed to the brother leader of the revolution Yugoslavia's point of view regarding U.S. imperialist intervention and the deterioration of the situation in the Middle East and Mediterranean regions.

In a statement to JANA Lazar Mojsov expressed his deep satisfaction with the results of his visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He also lauded the prominent and efficient role played by the Jamahiriyah at various levels, and stressed the identity of views between the Jamahiriyah and Yugoslavia on a number of international issues. The Yugoslav federal secretary for foreign affairs expressed his deep concern, however, over the current situation in Lebanon, underlining the need for a solution without any foreign interference.

Romanian President's Envoy Departs 25 September

LD251538 Tripoli JANA in English 1432 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijja 18, Sept 25, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — The personal envoy of President Nicolae Ceausescu of Romania left Tripoli this morning after ending a visit to the Jamahiriyah, during which he delivered a letter to the revolution's leader from President Ceausescu on the dangerous situation in the Middle East as a result of U.S. imperialist intervention. In a statement to the JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY's correspondent, the Romanian presidential envoy expressed great happiness for his visit to the Jamahiriyah and pointed to the Libyan Arab people's giant successes in all fields. He said relations between the Jamahiriyah and Romania require [word indistinct] within one year, [words indistinct] both countries are in agreement on several current world issues.

Al-'Ubaydi Rejects Libyan Dialogue With Habre

AB231306 Paris AFP in French 1154 GMT 23 Sep 83

[By Marie Joannidis]

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Sep (AFP) — Libya is ready to participate in all peace initiatives in Chad including the creation of a pan-African force, provided it is accepted by the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] presided over by Goukouni Oueddei, Libyan Foreign Minister 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi has declared to AFP.

In an interview held in Tripoli on Thursday, Mr al-'Ubaydi reaffirmed the Libyan position, which is opposed to all direct dialogue with Ndjamena as Chadian President Hissein Habre has been demanding. Mr Habre does not recognize the representatives of the GUNT, which is fighting against his force with the support of Libya. "The Chadian conflict is a civil war," stressed Mr al-'Ubaydi. "Hissein Habre must have discussions with Goukouni and the GUNT. We have nothing to discuss with him."

At a press conference held in Tripoli on Wednesday, Goukouni Oueddei announced that he was ready to have direct negotiations with Mr Habre under the auspicies of the OAU; he did not make the withdrawal of French troops from Chad a precondition for the opening of negotiations. Mr al-'Ubaydi indicated that Libya's contacts with France "have never ceased at any time including when they nearly clashed."

"We have seen the two faces of France," continued Mr al-'Ubaydi: "that of a country in search of peace in Chad and which respects the Africans and the OAU, and that of the France of the past which considers Africa and Chad as a former colony and a sphere of influence." "We have chosen to believe in the peaceful intentions of France," he added, "because we believe that it is in its interest to keep the continent outside the reach of the superpowers and the Americans outside this African problem." The minister however affirmed that "Libya is on its guard against the strengthening of the French military position in Chad and in the neighboring countries," and wondered whether the French are not trying to gain time to enable Hissein Habre to become familiar with the sophisticated equipment he has received and to thus threaten Libya's security.

It was learned from a reliable source that Paris also is asking the same question concerning the intentions of Libya, which still officially denies its presence in Chad. To this, Mr al-'Ubaydi — without explicitly admitting the participation of Libyan troops in the fighting — replied: "We are not going to remain idle,since the conflict has been internationalized with the presence of Americans, Zairians, French, and even Israelis in Chad."

"We gave our support to Goukouni and the GUNT," said Mr al-'Ubaydi, who added that any peace formula from a Lagos-type conference will be respected by Libya even if it calls for the withdrawal of "all foreign troops." The Lagos conference resulted in the formation of the GUNT in 1979, bringing together 11 political and military factions in Chad including Hissein Habre's FAN. "As such," Mr al-'Ubaydi added, "we consider Hissein Habre as an opportunist who does not keep his word and today is blackmailing France. We feel he is an enemy of Libya and a danger for Africa who serves America's interest."

Concerning the OAU initiative, Mr al-'Ubaydi explained that it first of all provides for the sending to Chad of observers of the demarcation line and the eventual deployment of a pan-African peacekeeping force during the negotiations. "France's participation in the peace negotiations is explained by its military presence and by the fact that it could put political pressure on Hissein Habre for the negotiations to be initiated," he added. Concerning the forthcoming French-African summit in Vittel, Mr al-'Ubaydi only stated: "We are against this kind of meetings, which have nothing to do with the OAU."

Jabir Leaves for YAR With Message 25 Sep

LD251521 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, left Tripoli this morning for San'a' on a visit to the Yemen Arab Republic within the framework of bolstering and strengthening relations of cooperation between the brothers. Brigadier General Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir carries a message from the leader of the revolution to his Brother Colonel 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of YAR. During this visit, he is to take part in celebrations to be held tomorrow on the occasion of the 21st anniversary of the revolution in North Yemen.

JANA Reports Coup Attempt in Zaire Foiled

LD231458 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Kinshasa, 23 Sep (JANA) — An attempted coup took place against the agent President Mobutu Sese Seko, head of the Zairean regime. It has been learned from reliable sources that the Zairean prime minister has participated in this attempt, and that he has left the country after he knew that the coup against Mobutu Sese Seko did not succeed. The sources affirm that the Zairean revolutionary forces, which implemented this attempt, are now reorganizing their ranks outside the borders, which made the regime of Mobutu Sese Seko close Zaire's borders with the neighboring countries. It is worth mentioning that Zaire has recently seen mass demonstrations that have included all the groups of the Zairean people, and wide disturbances took place within the ranks of the Zairean Army, especially among the ranks of young officers. This is in addition to the fact that all the teachers in the country announced an open strike at the end of last week in protest against the deteriorating situation in the country.

JANA Editor Criticizes Reduced U.S. Aid

LD241834 Tripoli JANA in English 0935 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulhijja 17, Sept 24, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — REUTERS News Agency reported the American Senate has agreed on a proposal to stop all economic aid to Syria and endorsed a law which decreases U.S. contribution to international organisations that give financial aid to the Jamahiriyah and Syria.

JANA political editor commented on this measure by saying "although Jamahiriyah does not need any aid from America or any other country and relies on its resources and the efforts of its people, nor does it receive any aid from any international organisation, this decision is however dangerous in its meaning. It resorts to the weapon of aid which is most of the time in the form of food aid to put pressure on the free peoples to force them to accept political stands opposed to their national will. This decision is evidence of a racist fanaticism against peoples. These international organisations like the UNESCO, the FAO organisation for food and agriculture and the UNICEF organisation for children supposedly with a humanitarian aspect develop knowledge and sciences. It means that the U.S. Administration is now trying to deprive the Jamahiriyah people from science and knowledge after forbidding its students from studying aviation and nuclear sciences. These decisions however are ignorant and do not affect the will of our people nor do they affect the will of the Syrian people. They show that America is the leader of international terrorism and that it is an aggressive and imperialist country which the Arabs must fight against."

MOROCCO

King Hassan Receives UAE President 23 September

LD241343 Rabat MAP in English 0900 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] RABAT, 24 Sep (MAP) — His Majesty King Hassan II received last night at the Royal Palace in Skhirat His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan al Nuhayyan, president of the UAE, who is currently on a private visit to Morocco. His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan was accompanied by His Highness Shaykh Rashid ibn Ahmad al-Mu'alla, member of the Emirates Union Council and ruler of Umm al-Qaiwayn; Dr Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and natural resources, and UAE ambassador in Rabat, Mr ('Abdallah as-Zu'bi).

King Hassan Receives Libyan Justice Secretary

LD232312 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1615 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Rabat, 23 Sep (JANA) — Moroccan King Hassan II received last night in Rabat Brother Muhammad al-Zuwayy, secretary of justice, who conveyed a very important verbal message from the brother leader of the revolution concerning the armed American aggression on Arab territory, the continuous bombing by the U.S. 6th Fleet of the Muslim and patriotic forces in Lebanon, and the necessity of adopting a firm Arab stand to confront this aggression. The meeting, which lasted 1 and 1/2 hours, was attended by the brother secretary of the Libyan Arab Liaison Bureau and the Moroccan minister of interior.

King Hassan Leaves for UN Session 25 September

LD251902 Rabat MAP in Arabic 1530 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Rabat, 25 Sep (MAP) — His Majesty King Hassan II left at noon today for the United States. In his capacity as chairman of the Arab summit conference and chairman of the seven-man committee, the Moroccan king is expected to deliver a speech at the UN General Assembly session in New York. He will also hold numerous discussions and contacts with leaders of some states attending the current session of the UN General Assembly.

Boucetta on Saharan Issue, Bush Visit

PM231036 London Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat in Arabic
21 Sep 83 p 1

['Abd al-Kabir al-'Alawi report: "Boucetta Tells *Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat*: Morocco Is Ready for Sahara Referendum"]

[Excerpts] Bonn — The OAU's ad hoc committee in charge of organizing the referendum in the Western Sahara is scheduled to meet at summit level in Addis Ababa today. The Moroccan delegation will be headed by Crown Prince Mohamed and will include a number of senior officials such as Minister of State for Foreign Affairs M'hamed Boucetta. The delegation has already left for Addis Ababa for the meeting which will also be attended by Sudan, Guinea, Tanzania, Sierra Leone, Nigeria, Mali, and Ethiopia.

Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat has contacted Boucetta by telephone. He confirmed Morocco's willingness to hold the referendum within the framework of the OAU. He expressed hope that this issue would be resolved as soon as possible to pave the way for Arab Maghreb unity. He also said that in the next few weeks there will be an important move to settle the Middle East conflict. On the Sahara referendum question, Boucetta stressed to *Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat* that "there is no major obstacle in the way of holding the referendum, unless one side or another does not want it to go ahead." He added: As far as Morocco is concerned I can confirm that, as King Hassan said in his recent speeches on several occasions, Morocco is perfectly willing to have the referendum and work for it within the OAU and the special committee formed for that purpose.

In reply to a question about the possibility of direct negotiations between Morocco and the Polisario before the referendum and about the attitudes of certain parties toward this matter, Boucetta said: "These attitudes could be interpreted in various ways by the various sides. What is important is that there is a special OAU committee in charge of overseeing the referendum and the cease-fire. Of course, there are attempts to hold direct negotiations between Morocco and the so-called Polisario but this is out of the question."

Finally *Ash-Sharq Al-Awsat* asked the Moroccan minister about U.S. Vice President Bush's visit to Morocco and whether the United States may soon reopen the dialogue with the Arab seven-member committee entrusted with the task of explaining the Fes plan. He replied: The U.S. vice president's visit was useful as far as U.S.-Moroccan relations are concerned and it was useful in that it enabled us to explain to the prominent U.S. visitor our views on all matters. His contacts and long meetings and discussions with his majesty the king on various matters were of major significance.

SUDAN

Numayri Pardons All Convicted Prisoners

JN241525 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1450 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Sep (SUNA) — President of the Republic His Excellency Ja'far Muhammad Numayri has decided to pardon convicted Sudanese prisoners in all the prisons in the country, in order to begin a new phase of perfect justice in accordance with the Islamic legislations and laws. In press statements he made at noon today, his excellency said that he had instructed the minister of internal affairs, during a meeting this morning, to pay each released prisoner a sum of 100 [Sudanese] pounds to enable him to start a new life. His excellency said further that he had asked the minister of interior to prepare a study to eventually put the released prisoners in agricultural and industrial projects.

The president added that it was decided to turn all the juvenile reformatiories into schools run under the supervision of the Ministry of Social Affairs in order to reform the juveniles. The provinces' rulers will implement this decision each in his own province. The president also announced that the prisoners' release will be celebrated on Thursday, after gathering and completing the data on the convicted in the various prisons.

Government Officials Sworn In Before Numayri

JN241935 Khartoum SUNA in English 1750 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, 24 Sep (SUNA) — The following officials have sworn in before President Numayri today.

1- The Chief Justice Daf'allah al-Haj Yusuf.

2- The President's Advisor for Foreign Affairs Hasan 'Abdallah at-Turabi.

3- Judges of higher and appeal courts.

4- The President's Legal Advisor Salah Aldin Shibaka.

5- The Chairman of Supreme Council for Religious Affairs and Endowments Yusuf al-Khalifah.

6- Minister of State in the Presidency 'Awad ai-Jid Muhammad Ahmad.

Numayri's Envoy Carries Messages to Arab Leaders
JN251140 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1025 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Khartoum, 25 Sep (SUNA) — 'Umar Muhammad Yasin, roving ambassador at the presidency, will today begin a 2-week tour of five Arab countries. Yasin said that he will convey to the leaders of these countries written messages from President Numayri on bilateral relations, the current situation in the Arab World, Arab solidarity, and supporting Arab-African cooperation to pursue President Numayri's moves in the Arab and African arenas. The tour will include the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Jordan.

TUNISIA

Es-Sebsi Consults With Maghreb Colleagues
PM251954 Tunis L'Action in French 15 Sep 83 p 5

[TAP report: "Intense Maghreb Activity at Foreign Ministry"]

[Text] Tunis — The Foreign Ministry saw intense activity yesterday [14 September] relating to Tunisian cooperation with the Maghreb countries.

For instance [Tunisian Foreign Minister] Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi had a series of meetings yesterday morning with Mauritanian Deputy Foreign Minister Mohamed Fadhel Ould Dah, Algerian Information Minister Boualem Bessaiah, and Libyan Secretary of the General People's Committee for Foreign Liaison 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi. These talks related in particular to bilateral relations between Tunisia on the one hand and Mauritania, Algeria, and Libya on the other. They also related to the new impetus which inter-Maghreb relations are experiencing and the situation prevailing in Africa and in the Arab world. These contacts also made it possible to reaffirm the desire of all to pursue the building of Maghreb unity in keeping with the directives of the leaders of the countries concerned.

"Tunisian-Libyan relations," Mr 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi stated in this connection following his meeting with Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi, "are now passing through a satisfactory phase which we regard as the best stage in understanding and consultation between our two countries. This is due to the conviction of President Bourguiba and Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi that we share a common destiny and that the Libyan and Tunisian peoples must take joint action. We also discussed some problems concerning Africa, such as the Zionist penetration of this continent, which has just been demonstrated by the restoration of diplomatic relations between Israel and some African countries. In this connection we reaffirmed that the OAU is still the appropriate framework for solving the continent's problems. I also discussed with Mr Beji Caid es-Sebsi the question of the Arab Maghreb's unity on the basis of the decisions taken at the different summits of Maghreb heads of state. We are optimistic about the building of the Arab Maghreb thanks to the fraternal relations which unite the countries of the region."

Al-Qadhdhafi Envoy Arrives Bearing Message
LD251846 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Muhammad Abu al-Qasim az-Zuwayy, Libyan secretary of justice and the interior and the personal envoy of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to President Habib Bourguiba, arrived in Tunis this afternoon. The visit is part of the Libyan personal envoy's tour of the Arab Maghreb countries to convey messages from Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the leaders of these countries concerning in particular the recent developments in Lebanon.

Tunis Cites Chedli Klibi on French Role in Lebanon
LD240846 Tunis Domestic SErvice in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Excerpt] In Tunisia Chedli Klibi, general secretary of the League of Arab States, believes that the intervention of the French Air Force after the intervention of the aircraft of the U.S. fleet in the fighting in Lebanon constitutes an escalation bound to internationalize the Lebanese crisis in addition to the danger of a confrontation among the major powers. Chedli Klibi stated that the French intervention, like the American intervention or any other possible intervention, constitutes an obstacle to a cease-fire and, moreover, conflicts with the main task of the multinational force, to back efforts to restore peace and accord of Lebanon. The general secretary of the League of Arab States appealed to all warring Lebanese sides not to harm civilians and the units of the multinational forces and the UN emergency forces and all those who are carrying out tasks serving peace and security in Lebanon. He called on all sides to welcome the efforts in progress within the framework of international mediation and also the efforts of the sister and friendly countries to restore Lebanon's unity and sovereignty.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR Foreign Minister on Adjourned OAU Meeting
LD241143 Algiers APS in English 1010 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, 24-09-83 (APS) — Following the adjournment of the works of the meeting of OAU special committee to implement the resolutions of the 19th summit of the pan-African organisation over the Western Sahara, Mr Ibrahim Hakim, SDAR foreign affairs minister made a declaration in which he said [word indistinct] more the aggressive policy of the Morocco Government suffered a heavy set back by unveiling its mask to Africa. The government's refusal to accept the way direct negotiations proposed by the OAU special committee to implement OAU resolutions translate the Morocco's refusal to accept peace, its despise to Africa's will a will illustrated in the resolution number 4 voted unanimously in Addis Ababa during the 19th summit, there for its desire to see not only its aggression being perpetrated against the Sahraovi people but also to dive again our organisation in the crisis which nearly caused its bursting out. [sentence as received]

"What happened proves however the respect of the African legality by the Polisario Front whereas Morocco by its attitude of despise [as received] flouted this legality." It is well known that the Polisario Front answered favourably to the formula proposed by the implementing committee to make possible to the implementation of OAU resolution which accounts for our will to cooperate fully with our continental organisation and the spirit which has always animated us to [word indistinct] the difficulties which our continent is facing. The official and the categorical reject of this resolution by Morocco has as equal only its will to refuse to cooperate with Africa. Before this situation, we are convinced that Africa will withdraw all lessons which an imposed by the position of Morocco. [sentence and punctuation as received]

ETHIOPIA

Delegation Departs for Bulgaria, SFRY 24 Sep

EA241521 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1000 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Comrade (Adis Tedle), PMAC Standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member and deputy chairman of the national revolutionary development campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, left for Sofia this morning for a working visit to the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the SFRY.

During his stay in Bulgaria at the head of a nine-man delegation Comrade (Adis) will take part in the meeting of the Ethiopia-Bulgaria joint commission for economic, scientific, technical, and trade cooperation.

During his working visit to Yugoslavia he will hold talks with his counterparts on existing and future economic cooperation and friendship between Socialist Ethiopia and the SFRY.

On his departure from Addis Ababa comrade (Adis) was seen off by Comrade (Legesse Asfaw), PMAC standing Committee and COPWE Executive Committee member; Comrade (Mersihe Ijigu), head of the general planning sector of the national revolutionary development campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council with the rank of minister, and other comrades. Among the delegation is Comrade Wollie Chekol, minister of external trade.

Eritrean Radio Reports TPLF Battle Successes

EA251858 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 1500 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] On 18 September the liberation forces of the Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] attacked an enemy force of the Dergue regime in Mekoni town, and captured the town after expelling the forces in the area.

The Dergue forces were forced to camp at Mersa town after failing to stop the invading TPLF forces in Mekoni in the clash that lasted from midnight until 0800. An attempt to recapture the lost town after 2 days of reinforcement was also fruitless. In these two clashes the Dergue soldiers lost 90 killed, including 1 captain and 1 major, and 110 others wounded; 8 soldiers, 31 assorted weapons, and 2 radio communication set were captured.

In another development, the TPLF and Ethiopian People's Democratic Movement released 263 Dergue soldiers who had been captured in a recent joint attack on Mille Wouchale and Wergesa towns.

KENYA

Visiting Nigerian Foreign Minister Cited on OAU

EA241512 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Nigerian Foreign Minister Prof. Ishaya Audu has said that failure of agreement between Polisario and Morocco during the OAU Implementation Committee at Addis Ababa on Western Sahara may endanger the Council of Ministers meeting in February next year.

At a press conference during a brief stopover at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport from Addis Ababa, Prof. Audu said that the current chairman of the OAU would continue to hold consultations to make two parties in the conflict cooperate and reach some compromise.

Professor Audu criticized Polisario for demanding direct talks insofar as neither party had objected to the UN framework of negotiations. The UN framework included the provision of a peace-keeping force, holding of referendum by April next year and the question of refugees.

The Nigerian foreign minister was met by the permanent secretary for foreign affairs, Mr. Shamalla, the Nigerian high commissioner to Kenya, Mr. Nuhu Mohammed, the Chief of Protocol, Denis Afande, and other officials.

CHAD

Minister Returns From West African Tour, Comments

JN251204 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1015 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Ndjamena, 25 Sep (SUNA) — Chadian Higher Education Minister Lassou Gouara has returned here after touring a number of west African countries, including Mali, Upper Volta, Mauritania, and Niger. During this tour, he conveyed messages from President Habre to these countries' leaders and briefed them on the situation in Chad.

In a statement to SUNA yesterday, Gouara said that these countries hold views on the Chadian situation that are identical to the Chadian view. He said that the leaders of these countries expressed concern over the situation in Chad. They believe it is not unlikely that other countries may be subjected to aggression in the future.

Bardai Radio on Goukouni Negotiation Proposal

LD241706 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1820 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The most important development of the past few days is of a diplomatic nature; namely, the interview granted by the comrade president of the Transitional National Union Government of Chad [GUNT], Goukouni Oueddei, to representatives of the international press in Tripoli. [passage indistinct] We must now consider the fundamental aspects of the statements made by the Chadian head of state.

The GUNT pledges to negotiate, without conditions, with the forces of Hissein Habre and to set aside the preliminary requirement of the withdrawal of the French troops if this would contribute to the restoration of peace in Chad. This was stated by the GUNT leader. The comrade president of GUNT also pointed out that France, unable to remain 10-20 years in Chad, must pressure Hissein Habre to negotiate. The comrade head of state at the same time asked African heads of state to [passage indistinct].

What one can deduce from the statements made by the president is that they confirm the constant willingness of GUNT to [passage indistinct] with a man of legendary bad faith, held at arms length by the French force. The president of GUNT has just taken a fresh step forward by speaking of peace, by withdrawing the condition of the withdrawal of the French troops from Chad.

For the vice president of GUNT, Colonel Kamougue, the softening of the position of the GUNT [words indistinct] the contacts made with France and the OAU. [Words indistinct] GUNT is ready to go very far in the search for peace in favor of the Chadian people. [passage indistinct] By expressing the new government position, Comrade President Goukouni Oueddei has once again proved the sensitivity of GUNT to the suffering of the Chadian people and its responsibility toward sincere aspirations for peace and security of the Chadian popular masses.

The ball is thus in the other court. [passage indistinct] No, the attitude of GUNT in no way reflects a weakness or the weakening of the revolutionary forces. Yesterday as well as today the revolutionary forces are ready to assume all their responsibilities to make the adventurists of the FAN understand that they have no interest in [passage indistinct].

AFP Interviews GUNT Vice President Kamougue

AB231225 Paris AFP in French 1128 GMT 23 Sep 83

[By Marie Therese Delboulbes]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 September (AFP) — Colonel Abdelkader Kamougue, vice president of the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) of Chad, said on Friday in Addis Ababa that the GUNT has launched a diplomatic campaign to promote the "dynamics of peace" and national reconciliation in Chad.

"The dynamics of peace is reality and nothing must stop it. Chad has been balkanized because of French intervention, but if this intervention has enabled the situation to stabilize, so much the better since initiatives are developing at the level of the OAU," stated Col Kamougue in an interview with AFP.

"This stabilized situation is a good thing provided all the parties demonstrate a real desire for peace, but we are opposed to the de facto division" now existing, continued the GUNT vice president. "I am a southerner; I am now in Bardai (GUNT headquarters in the Tibesti region in the north) and what am I to do with my brothers and sisters living in the south? This balkanization is inadmissible."

Col Kamougue has been in the Ethiopian capital for the past few days and has had "several contacts at all levels." He explained that he had come to Addis Ababa because it is OAU Headquarters, and Ethiopia is the current chairman of the organization.

In reply to a question concerning steps the OAU could take, the colonel stated that the GUNT was opposed to the meeting of the OAU's permanent committee, whose existence it does not recognize. It was recalled that during the meeting of the organization's bureau 2 months ago, one of the initiatives envisaged was the summoning of a meeting of this committee which comprises Chad's neighboring countries in particular.

"We do not need the permanent committee to make peace; let the Bureau meet first and let us find other formulas," added the colonel. About the dispatch of a peacekeeping force financed by France, which supports Mr Habre, and by Libya which supports the GUNT, the colonel was of the opinion that this proposal "should not meet with any difficulties." "It was our pan-African organization that gave birth to the GUNT" (during the Lagos accords of 1979), stressed the Chadian leader. "We believe that it bears full responsibility, and despite the stab in the back we have received from the OAU, we believe that the time has come for it to remedy the situation by developing a certain number of peace initiatives."

While deploring "the lack of sincerity which came with the French intervention (3,000 soldiers sent into Chad), the colonel said "maybe it is a good thing in itself. History will tell us. We condemned this intervention in principle."

The GUNT vice president stated that Hissein Habre had "sold the country" and was now using the issue of the Aouzou Strip (occupied for the past 10 years by Libya, which is claiming it) as a "war horse," though when he led the rebellion against the central government at the time, "he was present when the Libyans hoisted their flag" on this uranium rich desert region.

Finally, according to the southern leader, "if Hissein Habre's FAN controls the towns in the south, our forces control the countryside, despite the difficulties that we face in keeping up the resistance."

Further Kamougue Remarks

AB231300 Dakar PANA in French 1135 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Addis Ababa, 23 Sep (PANA) — Guinea President Ahmed Sekou Toure on Thursday evening in Addis Ababa received Colonel Wadal Abdelkader Kamougue, vice president of the Tranisitional National Union Government [GUNT], who informed him about the GUNT's readiness to negotiate with Ndjamena without preconditions because "it is others who profit from the war going on in Chad, not the Chadian people."

For the GUNT vice president, the solution to the Chadian conflict should take into account the need to use the Lagos accordsas the basis for negotiations. "We have to start from scratch if we want peace. Free elections should lead to a return to normal life. The problems of men and their fight for power, though being one of the causes of the present situation in Chad, is not as much the cause as the administrative and government structures which do not correspond to realities in Chad," he said.

Col Kamougue feels that the federal formula proposed by French President Francois Mitterrand is too much of a risk for safeguarding Chad's territorial integrity. He believes an intermediary formula should be tried first, a formula characterized by greatly increased decentralization which will enable each region to manage its local affairs according to its needs.

"The Chadian Government would be concerned with coordinating the operations of the regions and the common, priority, and strategic sectors," he affirmed.

CONGO

Sassou-Nguesso in Paris Discusses Events in Chad

Press Luncheon Remarks

AB231125 Paris AFP in French 1728 GMT 22 Sep 83

[Text] Paris, 22 Sep (AFP) — Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso stated in Paris on Thursday that if the French military presence in Chad "can help to end the fighting and begin negotiations, it should be attempted," but he stressed that "it involves some risks." "I do not believe," he continued at a luncheon with the Euro-African press, "that President Mitterrand wants to encourage a continuation of the war. However, if the French forces are in Chad to allow the war to go on, then they are not useful."

"There is no purpose," the Congolese president went on, "in giving everyone illusions of a military solution." "Facts show that one should not count on a military solution, since war has been waged in Chad for almost 20 years now," he said, recalling that his country is in favor of a political and diplomatic solution.

Sassou-Nguesso, who began a 3-day official visit to Paris on Wednesday, refused to say whether he will attend the French-African summit in Vittel 2-4 October. "My presence," he said, "is not linked with that of the Chadian head of state," Hissein Habre. "It is a question of agenda," he explained.

Since Chad should be represented by its lawful head of state, Hissein Habre, observers question whether President Sassou-Nguesso, head of one of Africa's so-called progressive countries, will attend. He does not hide his support for Goukouni Oueddei's Transitional National Union Government, which is fighting with Libyan assistance against President Habre's forces, which are supported particularly by France.

The Congolese president, who was to meet French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson later on Thursday, and President Francois Mitterrand on Friday, said that concerning Namibia, France "has a position close to that of Congo within the Contact Group (France, FRG, Canada, Great Britain, United States)." However, he regretted that France "cannot work for the advancement of the issue all alone, in the face of the American veto."

Radio International Interview

LD251408 Paris International Service in French 1245 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The guest this weekend on Radio France International's Third World Press Club program was President Denis Sassou-Nguesso, Congolese head of state. Yesterday, before the first broadcast of the program, I speculated — in connection with President Sassou-Nguesso's forthcoming visit to Tripoli — about a possible deal between Paris and Brazzaville in the Chad affair: Since Paris is in a position to nudge Hissein Habre into negotiating, is it not the same thing with Brazzaville concerning Colonel al-Qadhdhafi? Well, President Sassou-Nguesso made it clear that Mr Mitterrand had not asked him to play the role of mediator. What I am going to do in Tripoli, he said, is not at the request of the French head of state. Still concerning Chad, President Denis Sassou-Nguesso was then asked why the Congolese People's Republic supports the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT].

[Begin Sassou-Nguesso recording] Our country had always supported GUNT because GUNT emanated from the 1979 Lagos conference which regrouped all the Chadian factions. We believe that legitimacy belongs to the Chadian people, and that is why we have always given credit to GUNT as the rallying point of all Chadian factions which emanated at the Lagos conference. Since that time, many events have taken place: There is a new government in Ndjamena; the OAU summit has taken place in Addis Ababa; and the government of Mr Hissein Habre took the Chadian seat at the OAU. However, this does not mean that the problem of Chad has been solved. The proof is still there for all to see.

One can acknowledge Mr Hissein Habre as the head of state of Chad today, but I repeat: This is not sufficient to solve the Chadian problem, the problem of the people of Chad, who are suffering and have been suffering for many years in a civil war. This would be a case of seeing the tree, but not the forest. [end recording]

Further on Interview

AB241400 Paris AFP in French 1246 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Paris, 24 Sep (AFP) — Congolese President Denis Sassou-Nguesso announced on Saturday that he would visit Libya before attending the Franco-Africa summit in Vittel. He also stated that he was against any foreign intervention in Chad and that he favored a political solution to the conflict.

Sassou-Nguesso ended on Friday evening a 3-day official working visit to France during which he met President Francois Mitterrand. Asked during Radio France International's Third World Press Club about relations between the two countries, he asserted that Brazzaville and Paris "are on the same wavelength and that they have normal ties of cooperation." The People's Republic of Congo is one of what are called the progressive African countries and has close relations with the Soviet Union and Cuba as well as with France and Italy.

On Chad and the summit in Vittel, Sassou-Nguesso confirmed that he would attend the summit in Vittel and denied rumors of the possibility of his not attending because of Chadian President Hissein Habre's presence. "At our level, there are no doubts," he said and clarified that he had no dispute with Habre. "Our country has always supported the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] led by Goukouni Oueddei because it emanated from the 1979 Lagos conference which regrouped all the Chadian factions. We believe that legitimacy belongs to the Chadian people... Since then, the Hissein Habre government has attended the OAU summit in Addis Ababa, but that still does not mean that the Chadian problem has been resolved," added Sassou-Nguesso.

He said that he would meet Goukouni if the latter is in Tripoli when he visits the country to hold talks with Colonel al-Qadhdhafi. Asked about the possibility of the GUNT president attending the summit in Vittel, he answered: "That is not my problem. It is the French Government that is organizing the conference. I do not think we should hold negotiations on the Chadian issue in Vittel, but we should continue to discuss our relations and our cooperation." France and Congo favor "noninterference in Chad's affairs," he said. "All that we are doing is to make it possible for Chadians to resolve their own problems without foreign intervention, French or otherwise," he said.

On the Western Sahara, according to the Congolese president everything possible should be done to see to the implementation of the resolution on the Western Sahara; otherwise another crisis could break out. Morocco has refused to negotiate directly with the Polisario Front despite the resolution adopted at the Addis Ababa summit calling for a cease-fire and a referendum [word indistinct] this led to the admission of the SDAR to the OAU and almost led to the disintegration of the organization because of the opposition by a minority of what is called the moderate states, who are mostly French speaking. According to the Congolese president, who recognized and supports the SDAR, there are no differences between his country's stand and the French one which has called for the self-determination of the Saharan people.

On Angola and southern Africa, "the situation is at an impasse because South Africa and the United States are posing conditions unacceptable to the Angolan Government (linkage between Cuban withdrawal and Namibian independence)," stressed Sassou-Nguesso. "In Chad, the American Government called on other countries to intervene in Chad in response to the appeal by Ndjamena. This is something that the Americans think is normal. However, they do not think it normal for the Angolan Government to exercise its sovereignty by asking for help from soldiers of a friendly country."

The Congolese president recalled that France rejected the linkage between a Cuban withdrawal from Angola and Namibian independence and expressed the hope that the Western Contact Group on Namibia, (United States, France, Great Britain, West Germany, and Canada) "would do everything possible to unblock the situation."

RWANDA

Foreign Minister Receives Chadian Delegation

EA232322 Kigali Domestic Service in French 1115 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Francois Ngarukiyintwali received a Chadian delegation this morning led by Chadian Minister of Planning and Reconstruction Joseph Yodoyman. The delegation's mission was to brief the Rwandan Government on the situation in Chad and to explain the Chadian Government's concern in this respect.

Replying to the head of the Chadian delegation, Minister Ngarukiyintwali conveyed a verbal message from the president of the republic clarifying the Rwandan Government's stand on the Chadian problem. He took advantage of the opportunity to underline the fact that Rwanda's position is based on the relevant provisions of the UN and OAU Charters, particularly on the following principles: noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries, respect for the territorial integrity of states, and the peaceful settlement of differences.

The minister of foreign affairs and cooperation pointed out that in the view of the Rwandan Government the situation in Chad can be settled only by the Chadians themselves and that to this end they should overcome their diagreeements and (?schisms) and follow the road of reconciliation. This reconciliation, he added, is indispensable to the foundations of Chadian national unity since the Chad problem cannot be solved by armed force but only in the framework [words indistinct] designed to promote and favor a political solution.

ZAIRE

MPR Central Committee Session Concludes

Mobutu Speech

AB251148 Paris AFP in English 1110 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Kinshasa, Sep 25 (AFP) — Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko today said Zaire had no alternative but to accept stringent measures imposed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), and called on the country's people to show a "civic sense" and "revolutionary discipline". The president, who was closing a meeting of Zaire's sole legal political party, the Popular Revolution Movement, also firmly ruled out any possibility of modifying the one-party state system and criticised those who defied the state's authority.

Marshal Mobutu, recognising the restrictive terms of a proposed IMF loan — 350 million dollars over 15 months — said: "It is a bitter pill, but there is no alternative to swallowing it." He was referring to measures including a 450 per cent devaluation of the Zairean currency against the IMF's Special Drawing Rights announced on September 10. He said that in the end, the measures would be beneficial to the country's economy and people, on condition that they were "correctly and vigorously applied".

"The joking has lasted long enough," Marshal Mobutu said. Marshal Mobutu referred to 13 members of the Zairean parliament jailed last year for advocating a multi-party system, saying that "strengthening themselves with supposed external backing", they had resolved to resume their agitation. Describing them as "public wrongdoers" and "outlaws", he said they would be treated as such from now on. The people should be preserved from "poisoning" and "demobilisation", he added.

The 13 were released from jail under an amnesty declared earlier this year. Marshal Mobutu also called on the "relevant services" to "double their vigilance" and to "put out of action the marginals of all kinds".

He vowed personally to put an end at any price to "any form of agitation which might seek to find a foothold on Zaire's land". The president said: "Democracy, freedom and human rights will never serve as a pretext for anyone to devote themselves to anarchy, licence and irresponsibility in our country."

The party's Central Committee meeting, which opened on September 19, adopted three declarations — on the political situation, in the economic and social field, and on the situation in Chad, where Zaire has some 2,000 troops backing the regime of President Hissein Habre.

The political declaration stressed again that Zaire was a one-party state, and said "any kind of attempt to call this option into question is an unconstitutional and counterrevolutionary act". The declaration deplored the fact that "certain countries with whom Zaire has diplomatic relations lend themselves to the subversive and illegal manoeuvres of outlaws". These countries were not named.

On the economic and social front, the party committee called on Zaireans to appreciate the well-founded nature of the monetary devaluation, with the sacrifices this implied, and to ensure their success by "patriotic and revolutionary" behaviour.

On Chad, the declaration appealed to all "peace-and justice-loving countries" not to interfere in its internal affairs, to respect its territorial integrity and to allow Chadians to settle their problems without "pressure and act of force". The declaration condemned "external aggression by elements from a neighbouring country" in Chad, without directly naming Libya, saying this aggression was a "flagrant violation" of resolutions of the 19th Organisation of African Unity summit and the charter principles of the OAU and the United Nations.

Resolutions Adopted

AB251310 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The MPR Central Committee ended its seventh ordinary session yesterday. As expected no major decisions were made. The members of the Central Committee pronounced two declarations. The first is on the country's political, economic, and social situation. The second is on the situation in Chad.

In the first declaration, the MPR's Central Committee, desiring to strengthen the surveillance of the state party in all sections of national life, reiterated the fundamental options of the country as defined in the constitution. Thus, the one party state is only legal political system in Zaire. Any attempt to question these (?guarantees) would be unconstitutional and counterrevolutionary. It called on all the party's militants to be vigilant in order to expose the antiparty elements and other saboteurs of the revolution. Concerning foreigners residing in Zaire and all our partners, the Central Committee called on them to abstain from interfering in the internal affairs of this country. On the economic and social sectors, after observing that the new measures to streamline the economic, monetary, and financial sectors will help revive production and gradually improve the living conditions of the people, the Central Committee called on all Zaireans to understand the reasons behind these sound measures and not to (?criticize them) because they are the price for the economic development, social well-being, and stability of our country.

In the second declaration on the situation in Chad, the Central Committee paid tribute to the political wisdom of Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko for having responded favorably to the appeal by the legitimate government of Ndjamena. The MPR Central Committee called on all the countries of the world who believe in peace and justice not to intervene in the internal affairs of Chad, to respect its territorial integrity, and to leave the Chadians alone to settle their problems without the use of force.

BENIN

Upper Voltan Delegation Visits; Sankara To Visit

AB241300 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Vilon Ghezo, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Revolutionary National Assembly, acting for the head of state, this morning received in audience an Upper Voltan delegation introduced by Theophile Ahoyo, the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. This delegation was led by Philipe Ouedraogo, minister of equipment and communications. At Sylvestre Zomahou's microphone the Upper Voltan minister pointed out that his visit to Benin falls within the framework of strengthening the bonds of fraternity, friendship, and cooperation between our two countries.

[Begin recording] [Ouedraogo] We discussed with the chairman issues affecting brotherly cooperation between the peoples of Benin and Upper Volta and between the Beninese and Upper Voltan revolutions. Of course, we also discussed issues of economic cooperation which contribute to the strengthening of these links of solidarity between our two peoples and to the consolidation of our revolutions through our common efforts.

In fact, the main purpose of the visit of our delegation to the People's Republic of Benin is the development of cooperation which has existed between our two peoples for decades. Furthermore the purpose of this visit is also to boost the economic cooperation between our two brotherly and neighboring peoples in view of the excellent relationship between the two heads of state of our two countries who are comrades in arms — I mean President Mathieu Kerekou and President Thomas Sankara — and through this existing friendship between the two presidents to strengthen and expand the various aspects of cooperation existing between our two brotherly African peoples.

[Zomahou] A few days ago President Sankara met neighboring heads of state. Last week he met the Malian president and yesterday the Niger president. Can we venture to say that he will shortly be in Cotonou?

[Ouedraogo] As you know, our relations with Benin are very special as a result of the similarity of the objectives of our two revolutionary regimes and also because our two countries are neighbors, and they are bound to assist each other in the advancement of their revolutions. This in particular is one of the aspects of the relations which link our two peoples, our two revolutions, and our two heads of state. It is therefore necessary that the relations between the two leaders of the revolution are diversified and they should meet physically to achieve this objective. We know that President Thomas Sankara's visit to Benin is quite normal and as expected, President Thomas Sankara will soon visit Benin if the Beninese officials are ready to receive him.

[Zomahou] I'd like to ask my last question now. How is the political situation in Upper Volta?

[Ouedraogo] If I want to sum it up in a few words, I would say that it is very favorable. Each day that passes consolidates our revolution and this demonstrates and proves the popular support of our revolution. It shows that although the domestic Upper Voltan reactionaries had for a long time kept the people at arm's length, the revolution, which is carried out with the people and which is aimed at giving the people free speech, shows in effect the side which the Upper Voltan people chose in order to free themselves, to obtain the right to free speech, and to make themselves responsible, that is, to allow themselves to participate effectively in decisionmaking. The Upper Voltan revolution is doing well. It is doing well at home and our relations with the external world also confirm that the situation is favorable in Upper Volta. [end recording]

GUINEA

Toure Returns From Saudi Arabia, Ethiopia Visits

AB231715 Paris AFP in French 1342 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Guinean head of state Ahmed Sekou Toure returned to Conakry on Friday morning after a 10-day visit which took him to Saudi Arabia and Ethiopia, the Guinea radio monitored in Dakar reported. In Saudi Arabia, the radio reported, the Guinea head of state took part in Jidda in the meeting of the Islamic peace committee in charge of settling the Iran-Iraq conflict, of which he is chairman. He later performed the Muslim pilgrimage to the holy land of Mecca. After Saudi Arabia, President Sekou Toure went to Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) where he took part in the meeting of the OAU implementation committee on Western Sahara. This meeting, it will be recalled, opened on Wednesday in the Ethiopian capital and was adjourned indefinitely on Thursday.

LIBERIA

Doe Leaves for Visit to U.S., France

AB241305 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1200 GMT 24 SEP 83

[Text] Head of state Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel K. Doe left the country this morning for New York at the beginning of a 12-day visit to the United States and France. Head of state Doe, accompanied by a 17-member official party, departed Roberts International Airport at 0130 this morning. The CIC will on next Monday, 26 September, address the UN General Assembly in New York. He is also expected to meet with U.S. President Ronald Reagan in New York. An Executive Mansion release issued in Monrovia yesterday, and quoted by the LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, said Dr Doe is scheduled to attend the French-African summit in Paris [as heard] from 2 through 4 October at the invitation of French President Francois Mitterrand.

Assembly Chairman Says No Delay in Civilian Rule

AB240740 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The chairman of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly, Dr Edward B. Kesselley, has assured that the 32 additional days granted the assembly would not affect plans for the return to civilian rule in 1985. Speaking at a press conference he held in Gbanga yesterday, Dr Kesselley said while the assembly continues to sit for an additional 32 days, he would propose to the People's Redemption Council [PRC] to have other plans under the timetable drawn so as to avoid a stalemate. He noted that the members of the Constitutional Advisory Assembly wanted a return to civilian rule just as any other Liberian. However, Dr Kesselley said: We must not be tempted into doing a hasty job. We want a Constitution that will last for all times. The chairman of the assembly said they had earlier explained to the constitutional commission sent by the head of state to inquire into the assembly's request that even though the assembly had completed more than half of the work, there were other suspended articles that needed more time to debate. He, however, did not say what these suspended articles were and noted that they were very sensitive issues that needed careful handling. Dr Kesselley then said the qualification of the amount of work they have done does not mean that the call for 32 additional days was a waste of time and money. He explained that when the assembly could not reach a conclusion on certain articles, they suspended discussions of future (?plans) in order not to exceed the (?25) day period.

MALI

Traore Receives Libyan Official, PRC Ambassador

AB231750 Bamako Domestic Service in French 1500 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] General Moussa Traore, secretary general of the Democratic Union of Malian People [UDPM] and president of the republic, received successively in audience at 0930 and 1100 (Dahir Saka), information minister of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and the PRC ambassador to Mali. Libyan-Malian cooperation and the situation prevailing in Western Sahara and in Chad were discussed during the audience which was granted to the Libyan information minister in the presence of Mrs Fatou Niang, our minister of information and telecommunications, the leader of the People's Bureau of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah [no name provided], and our ambassador to Libya, His Excellency El Bakaye Kounta. Following his audience, the Libyan information minister told our reporter Zoumana Toure the purpose of his visit:

[Begin recording] [(Dahir Saka) in Arabic fading into French translation] I am very pleased to be received by his excellency the president of the Republic of Mali. During our talks, we reviewed African problems and in particular bilateral issues.

[Reporter] Concerning this bilateral cooperation, did you discuss Malian television?

[(Dahir Saka)] We discussed this issue because we came here on the occasion of the inauguration of Malian television and also to attend the Malian independence anniversary. [end recording]

During the audience granted to the Chinese ambassador, the strengthening of the exemplary cooperation between the PRC and the Republic of Mali, the strengthening of industrial projects carried out with Chinese assistance, and the consolidation of the friendship between the Chinese and Malian peoples were at the center of the talks.

Libyan-Donated TV Station Inaugurated in Bamako

AB251130 Paris AFP in French 0713 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Dakar, 2 Sep (AFP) — According to reports from the Senegalese capital, the television station donated to Mali by Libya was inaugurated on Saturday in Bamako by Mrs Fatou Gakou Niang, Malian information and communications minister, and (Ibrahima Saka), Libyan secretary of information and culture [as received]. Costing $3 million, Malian television, which has been in operation since Thursday, covers the Bamako area and its outskirts.

In his address, (Saka) stressed the fundamentally Islamic and cultural nature of relations between Libya and Mali. He also recalled that a Libyan cultural center has been opened in Bamako and announced that a big Islamic center will be constructed in the Malian capital. According to sources, this center will be constructed by a Chinese company and will cost $4 million. The minister also talked about the establishment of a Libyan-Malian trading company and about the opening of a Mali-Libyan bank in Bamako. On her part, Mrs Gakou thanked Libya for its donation and stressed that Tripoli has also offered 100 color television sets to the government and that it is going to train Malian technicians.

NIGER

Reportage on Visit of Upper Voltan President

Declaration on Visit

AB230910 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 22 Sep 83

["Niger-Upper Volta Tera Declaration" issued following the meeting of Niger President Brigadier General Seyni Kountche and Upper Voltan Head of State Captain Thomas Sankara in Tera, Niger, on 22 September — read by Upper Voltan Foreign Affairs Minister Arba Diallo]

[Text] His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and Upper Voltan head of state, and His Excellency Brig Gen Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council [CMS] and head of state of the Republic of Niger, conscious of the many unbreakable historical and geographical links existing between the peoples of Upper Volta and Niger, desirous of strengthening the basis on which they want to continue to strengthen these bonds and establish a mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries, and concerned about the need to contribute positively to the maintenance of peace in their subregion, Africa, and the world, declare:

First, relations between Upper Volta and Niger have always been marked by friendship, solidarity, and fraternity. Throughout their long history, they have witnessed a positive evolution which has contributed, to the satisfaction of the peoples of Upper Volta and Niger, to the establishment of solid bonds of cooperation between the two countries and to the consolidation of their national independence. Upper Volta and Niger renew their strong attachment to the maintenance, strengthening, and development of this confident relationship which they have established. Consequently, they reaffirm their common determination to pursue a sustained policy of goodneighborliness. They also pledge their readiness to respect their respective choices and, on the basis of solidarity and mutual advantage to their two countries, promise to further unite their efforts in order to achieve a wider scope of cooperation and a better economic interdependence. To this effect, the great Niger-Upper Volta Joint Cooperation Commission will meet as soon as possible in order to implement the mandate assigned to it in conformity with the pertinent terms of the agreement establishing the commission.

Furthermore, the two countries express their profound conviction that subregional organizations, such as the Entente Council, the ECOWAS, and the Liptako Gourma Organization of which they are both members, are valuable factors of rapprochement between their peoples and of maintenance of peace in the subregion. Therefore, they emphasize their determination to do everything possible to help these organizations to achieve their aims. Solemnly promising to respect the terms of their bilateral cooperation agreement, Upper Volta and Niger intend to place all their cooperation under the sign of friendship, fraternity, solidarity and mutual assistance.

They have proclaimed their desire to maintain and to support the existence of an atmosphere of confidence, understanding, and unity between them. To this effect, they reaffirm their respect for the principle of noninterference in the internal affairs of other states as well as for the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of each state. They express their firm determination to fight against all acts and policies disregarding or violating these principles.

Second, attached to the ideal of African unity and desirous of seeing the definite establishment of peace on the African Continent, thus creating the conditions for fruitful cooperation, Upper Volta and Niger express their great concern at the persistence of areas of tension in Africa, the growing recourse to threats and the use of force in inter-African relations, as well as the development of subversive activities against independent African states. They stress the need to respect the independence, sovereignty, and territorial integrity of all states and encourage peaceful solutions to disputes between African states. In this way, they reaffirm their common desire to contribute to the disappearance of hotbeds of tension from the continent and to the promotion of inter-African cooperation in accordance with the final act and the plan of action adopted by the first OAU summit held in Lagos, which was devoted to economic issues. Upper Volta and Niger are of the view that the persistence of the apartheid policy in southern Africa and the permanent policy of domination, occupation, aggression, and destabilization practiced by the racist Pretoria regime against the states and peoples of this region constitute a serious threat to peace in the entire African Continent. Consequently, they reaffirm their active support for SWAPO and the frontline states in their determination to work to put an end to this unacceptable situation.

Third, concerned with the revival of tension in international relations, Upper Volta and Niger emphasize their resolute opposition to the policy of blocs, use of force, and domination. They reiterate their total support for the policy of nonalignment which constitutes a powerful factor for the promotion of understanding among peoples and nations and, consequently, of peace in the world. Loyal to this policy and the principles and objectives defined in the UN Charter aimed at finding a total solution to the problems of peace, security, disarmament, and development, they promise to join their efforts in order to contribute to the solution of the major world problems.

Tera, 22 September 1983.

Signed for the Republic of Upper Volta by Capt Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR and head of state; and for the Republic of Niger by Brig Gen Seyni Kountche, chairman of the CMS and head of state.

Reporters Question Sankara, Kountche

AB232030 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1300 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Upper Voltan head of state Captain Thomas Sankara and Niger President Brigadier General Seyni Kountche interviewed by unidentified journalists in Tera, Niger, on 22 September 1983 — recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] How is the Upper Voltan Revolution going?

[Sankara] To begin with, I thank you for wanting to put to me only one question. Before replying to this question, let me seize the opportunity to express my great joy at being able to come into contact, once again, with President Seyni Kountche of the Republic of Niger — Niger is a brotherly and friendly country to Upper Volta. A country whose people are intimately linked with the people of Upper Volta. The Upper Voltan revolution is going well. It is going very well, to the satisfaction of the Upper Voltan people who are fighting against their enemies. The people of Upper Volta are also busy with the construction of a new, a more responsible, dignified, and prosperous Upper Volta. Presently, we are laying emphasis on our independence, our sovereignty, and also the force of democratic values and the force of a mobilized people.

[Reporter] We would now like to talk to President Kountche. We would like to know if the first discussions that you have just held with President Sankara were able to influence your view of the Upper Voltan revolution?

[Kountche] Both in the communique and in the Tera declaration, we laid emphasis on the secular ties existing between Niger and Upper Volta [words indistinct]. We have placed this meeting within the framework of true fraternity, deviod of all forms of protocol, with the aim of strengthening these ties in all spheres. The changes in Upper Volta are not the first in Africa, particularly not in our subregion. Niger respects all changes, and as we said in our discussions, we wish the new Upper Voltan team every success. We know they truly wish to restore to the Upper Voltan people their dignity and pride and also their place — not only among the African nations but also among all nations of the world. To respond to your question, Miss or Mrs Journalist, this is not the first meeting between the current Upper Voltan head of state, who is presently our guest. Even if there have been some changes, we have an affection for one another that surpasses the simple relations that must exist between heads of state. This is to simply tell you that whether we sit down side by side or not, the sentiments that we have for each other are feelings of real fraternity and friendship. This is also the case in the relations that have always existed between the valiant people of Upper Volta and their Niger counterparts.

[Reporter] People say that the Upper Voltan revolution, notably the relations between Upper Volta and Libya, is disturbing some neighboring countries, including Niger. What is your view on this issue?

[Kountche] In the first place, you should not have begun your question by saying people, since this word denotes uncertainty or an unknown person. The acts of sovereignty allow the keeping of relations with whomever is entitled to it. The disputes which might exist between such and such a state must not be taken into consideration in relations between states. One thing is certain: The situation upon which history cannot have any effect or upon which the choice of friendship has no influence is that of the direct and immediate neighborliness between Upper Volta and Niger and the closeness of the people of Upper Volta and the people of Niger to each other.

And I have just said that Upper Volta is not the only country in Africa to have experienced a change; therefore, accusing a particular person in the subregion of such and such an attitude because of the relations that the new Upper Voltan regime has established with such and such a country is not considered in Niger.

We respect the sovereignty and the choice of the new Upper Voltan regime and its choice must not in any way have any influence on our relations — which we have just strengthened — relations which are based on friendship and confidence, and which we both want to better, within the framework of fruitful cooperation and the future of the peoples of Niger and Upper Volta.

[Reporter] Comrade President, one last question. People present Capt Sankara as being such and such a person. I said people, that means the international press. Mr President, finally, I think it is up to Sankara himself to tell us who Capt Sankara, the head of state and the politician, is.

[Sankara] You have expressed the view of the international press on Capt Sankara and the temptation is great. As for me, I would like to ask you, the national press, to tell me what you think of Capt Sankara, the politician and, in short, the man.

[Reporter] Another question: Soon, the conference of the West African Monetary Union [UMOA] will take place. What is your position on Mali's return to the union?

[Sankara] I think it is better to wait for this summit meeting to conclude before you ask the question.

[Reporter] This is to President Sankara — well, probably to both of you, I cannot tell. Do you think that a link could be made between the Upper Voltan revolutionary process and the new Niger society, the structures of which were recently established?

[Sankara] I think we must not let ourselves be tossed here and there by the vocabulary: revolution or change. The objective of every revolution is to lead to the well-being of a particular people or nation. The development of society originates from Niger. The new Upper Voltan team which ushered in the revolution on 4 August is searching for an authentic Upper Voltan means of restoring to the Upper Voltan his dignity and pride. That is its main objective too. In a collective development, there is no ready-made pattern [pret a porter], as long as the people of Upper Voltan remain themselves through the realities and particularities of the situation. That is also the case of the people of Niger. But relations, or cooperation, or the exchange of experience can lead them to [words indistinct] — depending on the model — to correct them and to see if it is adaptable to the realities of their people or the nation. [end recording]

Communique on Visit Issued

AB230950 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 22 Sep 83

["Press communique" issued following the meeting between Niger President Seyni Kountche and Upper Voltan Head of State Thomas Sankara in Tera, Niger, on 22 September]

[Text] His Excellency Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Council of the Revolution [CNR] and head of state of Upper Volta, paid a friendly working visit to Tera in the Republic of Niger on 22 September 1983 at the invitation of His Excellency Brigadier General Seyni Kountche, chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of the Republic of Niger. Capt Thomas Sankara and his entourage were accorded a warm and fraternal reception by President Seyni Kountche and the Niger people and government, particularly the population of Tera.

Chairman Thomas Sankara had discussions with President Seyni Kountche which centered on bilateral relations and African and international problems of common interest. On the Upper Voltan side, the participants in the discussions included Captain Henri Zongo, minister in charge of state companies; Lieutenant (Mori San), member of CNR; Under 2d Lieutenant Etienne Zamble, member of the CNR; Phillipe Ezonge, member of the CNR; (Sape Tiendaloum), member of the CNR; Foreign Minister Arba Diallo; Information Minister Adama Toure; Ernesto Ouedraogo, secretary of state for the interior; Toe Desire Cambore, director of bilateral cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; (Godio Lute Ebinega), director of internal trade at the Ministry of Commerce, Industrial Development, and Mines; Lucien (Tanta Kabiere), subprefect of Fada Ngourma; and Boubakar Koute, director of political affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

On the Niger side, the participants included Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Daouda Diallo; Public Works and Town Planning Minister Moumouni Yacouba; Public Health and

Social Affairs Minister Abdou Moudi; Sani Bakoe, permanent undersecretary at the presidency of the republic; Issatou Abdoul, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Interior; Major Ibrahim Kane, prefect of Niamey; Major Amadou Seidou, zonal commander; Abdourahmane Hama, director of political and cultural affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation;Asouman Adamou, subprefect of Tera; Moutari Moussa, subprefect of (Saye); Boubakar Ali, head of the administrative post of (Korodi); and Soumana Djibo, head of the (Bitre) administrative post.

Chairman Thomas Sankara and President Seyni Kountche expressed happiness about the atmosphere of frankness, mutual understanding and brotherhood which prevailed throughout their discussions. Following their meeting, they signed a document entitled "Niger-Upper Voltan Declaration at Tera." In his name and that of his delegation, His Excellency Capt Thomas Sankara, chairman of the CNR and head of state of Upper Volta, thanked his brother and friend Brig Gen Seyni Kountche and the population of Tera for the exceptionally warm and brotherly reception accorded them during their visit to Niger. Capt Thomas Sankara invited His Excellency Brig Gen Seyni Kountche to pay a friendly working visit to Upper Volta. The invitation was accepted with pelasure and the date of the visit will be fixed later through diplomatic channels.

Tera, 22 September 1983.

NIGERIA

Shagari Says Africans Can Resolve Chad

AB241150 Lagos NAN in English 1130 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Bonn, Sept. 24, (IPS/NAN) — President Shehu Shagari yesterday in Bonn said that African nations were capable of resolving the Chadian conflict themselves. The president, who is on a five-day visit to Western Germany, told newsmen that the OAU steering committee on Chad should meet and bring all the parties in the conflict together in the hope that they could agree on a ceasefire and the deployment of a peace-keeping force.

Our first task now is to persuade all now interfering from outside to give us a chance to solve it in the African way, he said. Appealing for a ceasefire, President Shagari said that Nigeria still believed that no leader would be able to rule Chad alone. All the factions, he said, should find common grounds to discuss. This time, he went on, they should draw up a constitution agreeable to all, then hold free elections; "whoever the people elect, should rule," the Nigerian leader declared.

President Shagari, who is to return to Lagos tomorrow, said that the foreign policy emphasis of his administration during his second term of office would remain on Africa. We want unity and co-operation on the continent, we want peace, and naturally, we will continue our fight against colonialism and apartheid in South Africa, President Shagari declared.

Reportage on House, Senatorial Elections

NPN Takes 41 Seats

AB232155 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The NPN [National Party of Nigeria] has won 41 of the 42 seats in the House of Representatives election held in Oyo State yesterday. According to a release by Fedeco [Federal Electoral Commission] today, the remaining one seat went to the Unity Party of Nigeria, UPN. Highlights of the results was the reelection of deputy leader of the house, Chief Olushola Afolabi, and the election of a woman, Mrs Oyin Ogunmola, for Oyo Central, both of the NPN. And in Ondo State, the collation of results in the House of Representatives election which took place today is under way, while the State House of Assembly poll is to be held on Sunday, the 25th of this month.

NPN Wins One Seat

AB250805 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Elections into the Ondo State House of Assembly takes place today. The election, which is the last of three rescheduled polls in the state, was originally scheduled for 12 September but was deferred because of the political disturbances which followed the results of the gubernatorial election. Meanwhile, the National Party of Nigeria has won one out of the four seats declared by the Fedeco [Federal Electoral Commission] in the senatorial election in the state. The Unity Party of Nigeria had won the three seats declared earlier in Ondo east, west, and north districts. The Fedeco has deferred the results of the election into the Ondo south district because of what it described as disturbances which occurred in [word indistinct] constituency. A statement from the chief electoral officer in the state, Mr H.A. Kariv, said that the disturbances made polling impossible in the area, (?therefore) polling had been rescheduled for tomorrow.

UPN Wins 10 Seats

AB251330 Lagos NAN in English 1315 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Akure, Sep 25 (NAN) — The UPN [Unity Party of Nigeria] has won 10 of the 12 House of Representative seats so far declared in Friday's election in Ondo State. According to Fedeco [Federal Electoral Commission] results released yesterday the NPN [National Party of Nigeria] won two seats. The figures showed that the UPN seats came from Akoko north, Akoko south, Akure, Ekiti central, Ekiti east, Ifesowapo, Ikale, Ondo, Owo 1, and Owo 11 constituencies. The two NPN seats were won in Ekiti south and Ekiti south-east constituencies. Results from 10 other constituencies are still expected.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Speech on Soldiers, Women's Rights

AB251100 Ouagadou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Address by Upper Voltan President Captain Thomas Sankara to a public rally on 23 September in Dori — recorded]

[Excerpts] Comrades, revolutionary comrades of Dori, the National Council of the Revolution is making its first visit to Dori. I thank you for the welcome you have given us. I thank and congratulate you for your militant mobilization for the revolution. If we have stopped in Dori, it is because we want to meet the Upper Voltan people, the people of Dori, the revolutionary people in Dori to whom we have come to deliver a message.

The Upper Voltan revolution is for the popular masses. Therefore, we like all peoples of the world who believe in justice, freedom, and democracy. The Upper Voltan revolution associates all Upper Voltans with its work provided they toe the line. That is why here in Dori you also have to work together with soldiers. You have an army regiment in Dori; you must work together with this regiment. A revolutionary soldier is one who uses his weapons against the external and international enemies of the people. A soldier, a good soldier, is not the one that goes to bars to get drunk. He also does not beat civilians in the streets to assert his strength. [applause] A soldier should assert his strength elsewhere and not against the people. A good soldier, a people's soldier, is the one who exposes plots, plots by reactionaries, and those who want the return of past regimes, and he also fights these people. There are such people in all army units, rotten elements who because yesterday they had power are not happy today about the fact that the people have a right to free speech and that justice is going to triumph. You must denounce them; you must fight them whatever their rank. These are the soldiers who have not undergone proper training and who have only succeeded through wheeling and dealing. [applause] They are fat and chubby [laughter]; they cannot carry a bag; they cannot run or walk; and they cannot even hold a gun properly but are intoxicating the other soldiers by telling them that the regime will not stand and that the regime will fall. No, it is because they are not happy anymore. It is because they can no longer steal the cooking oil or the meat and sugar destined for soldiers. It is because they are not able to wheel and deal anymore that they are today discouraged and that they are trying to intoxicate the other soldiers. It is not a crime to shoot these kind of people; it is not a crime to take your guns and shoot them; it would be doing service to the people to eliminate the enemies of the people.

The Upper Voltan woman, mainly in this region, has always been neglected. But that is also another way of exploiting and dominating a woman by making her believe she is inferior to a man. However, a woman is equal to a man. There are women who are braver than men; there are women who are more intelligent than men. The revolution is calling on the women to defend themselves. No man can defend women. Only women can defend themselves. That is why I am calling on the women, whether their husbands agree or not, whether their fathers agree or not, the women and young girls must become members of the Committees for the Defense of the Revolution with or without the approval of all those who have benefitted from the explotation of women. [applause]

ANGOLA

Security Minister Attends Cabinda FAPLA Meeting

AB250650 Luanda ANGOP in French 1345 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] Cabinda, 24 Sep (ANGOP) — Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo, minister of state security and member of the Political Bureau, arrived in Cabinda (provincial capital) to preside over the closing session of the seventh seminary for political workers of the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA].

The seminar, which began in Cabinda last Tuesday, is presided over by Lieutenant Colonel Francisco Magalhaes Paiva Mvunda, member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA Central Committee and national political director of the FAPLA.

60 UNITA Members Killed; Train Derailed

MB251045 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0700 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces' fight against the puppet and mercenary gangs infiltrated into the national territory from occupied Namibia by the dreadful and anachronistic South African regime continues with success and determination. Thus, 60 bandits of the UNITA puppet group have been killed and 20 weapons of various types captured as well as landmines and 60-mm shells during an action carried out by the glorious People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] in the municipality of Cuchi, Cuando Cubango Province. Authorized sources told the Angolan news agency that FAPLA forces completely liquidated a group of puppets who attempted to establish themselves in that area. A number of documents containing plans that the puppets would carry out in the framework of their destabilizing action against the process of national reconstruction were also captured.

Meanwhile, the army of the racist South African regime, supported by mercenaries, derailed 2 locomotives, 4 loaded fuel tankers, and 14 railway cars carrying an assortment of goods 60 km from the city of Lubango on the line linking Namibe and Huila Provinces. During this criminal action two people were injured. The saboteurs had set a powerful landmine which was remote controlled and supplemented with other explosives in an attempt to hit a passenger train.

Shortly before that action, a goods train which was transporting goods, including beans, rice, sugar, fuel, and other products, destined for the Provinces of Huila, Cunene, and Cuando Cubango had been ambushed by the South African Army and mercenaries. This criminal action was supported by South African aviation with the use of helicopters. Having learned of this act of sabotage, the Namibe provincial commissioner, Lieutenant Colonel Rafael Sapelinha Sambalanga, toured the area to assess the situation. Measures have already been taken to rapidly repair the 200 meters of rails which were destroyed and to remove the derailed equipment.

ANGOP Rejects Amnesty International Criticism

AB230900 Luanda ANGOP in French 1240 GMT 22 Sep 83

[ANGOP commentary: "Strange Preoccupations"]

[Text] Luanda, 22 Sep (ANGOP) — In certain international circles, there are always some people who are "concerned" about what is happening or not happening in Angola. If they were interested in the truth, this would be all right, of course. But this is not the case. On the contrary, their aim is to speak ill, even if they must resort to lies.

When there is nothing to say, they do not mind pure and simple inventions. Let anything just come to their mind. Anything at all.

During the past few days, Amnesty International, an organization whose aim is to safeguard the defense of "human rights" and whose headquarters is in London, decided to join the chorus of the offensive to run down our people and our revolution. It began to speak the language of the racists of Pretoria, the puppets, and the mercenaries.

Some sort of lampoon which used to be published in the Portuguese capital came out some time ago with a story of the "ark of the old lady" concerning a member of a splinter group. And now comes Amenesty International to give new information, to complete the story so that the lie can better be digested by consumers in the quest for gruesome serial stories, in order to satisfy certain persons who are thirsty for "news" from Angola.

We have said (and repeated) that any lies that may be said or written about us do not affect us since the liars also will soon be victims of these machinations, discredit, and ridicule and this will happen very soon.

Amid all this wave of lies cast over the revolutionary gains of the Angolan people, there is a fact that has to be made clear: In the People's Republic of Angola, no one, whoever he may be or however serious his crime, is executed "in the dead silence of the night," and no one is arrested without good reason and without a legal warrant.

In our country, there are no "unlawful executions and disappearances." Prisoners do not "disappear" in Angola. It is only in the imagination of some people who have misused the structures of Amnesty International that these gruesome allegories exist.

Amnesty International claims it is "looking for information about prisoners who are supposed to have disappeared ... "

It can abandon this research and turn its attention to what is happening in South Africa and Chile, for example. This is free and friendly advice that we are giving. Amnesty International should not concern itself with Angola where, truly speaking, there are no violations of human rights. These rights are safeguarded. It is the constitution itself that guarantees them. We do not need some individuals in London to waste their time on us ...

The major preoccupation seems to be the events of 27 May 1977. Nothing was hidden from the people, they were well informed. Our people lived the situation, and they know what happened.

But we will give a summary of it. Half a dozen opportunists, guided by ambitions fed by our external enemies, infiltrated the structures of the party and the state. When they were publicly denounced, they reacted through a coup attempt during which they cold-bloodedly murdered some leaders, prestigious, and representative figures of our national independence struggle. They wanted to take power through arms.

Naturally, the security forces did not look on unconcerned. They fought back and the opportunists were overpowered within a few hours. There was no firing squad, but rather a logical reaction from the forces of order who fought in self-defense.

We do not see how Amnesty International wanted to [words indistinct] with what happened, unless it has now joined those who seek to trample on the freedom of peoples, instead of being at the service of justice.

Rather, we are concerned about what is happening now to Amnesty International. We are pained to see it fall into dishonor, when in the past we saw it fight against oppression and exploitation.

LESOTHO

Ministers Brief Journalists on Refugee Situation

MB231231 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The 22 international journalists who are on a fact-finding mission in Lesotho were this morning briefed by the minister of interior, The Honorable N.S. Maseribane, and the minister of information and broadcasting, The Honorable D.T. Sixishe.

Speaking on the present situation in Lesotho, The Honorable Sixishe told the journalists that Lesotho is currently facing problems because of the selective sanctions imposed on her by South Africa. He explained that South Africa is spiting Lesotho by closing the borders between the two countries. People from Lesotho who would like to go to South Africa to do business are refused entry. This has seriously affected the lives of the people in Lesotho because Lesotho and South Africa are economically interdependent.

Mr Sixishe said that all this is done to pressurize Lesotho into submitting to the policies of Pretoria. South Africa is also trying to coerce Lesotho into recognizing the Bantustans. He stressed that Lesotho has, and will persistently, refuse to submit to the South African policy of apartheid. The minister further pointed out that the South African press gives a wrong and distorted picture about Lesotho. He pointed out that for a long time Lesotho has been subjugated [as heard] to attacks from her neighbor but the South African media hardly ever mention this.

The 22 journalists will gather as much information as possible on the life of refugees in preparation for the Second International Conference of Assistance to Refugees in Africa, INCARA II, which will be held in Geneva in July next year.

MOZAMBIQUE

Resistance Movement Releases 2 Soviet Captives

AB261201 Paris AFP in English 1156 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] Lisbon, Sept. 26 (AFP) — Mozambique's rebel South African-backed National Resistance Movement (MNR) said today it had released two of 24 Soviet aid workers captured in mid-August with a message for the Maputo Government. An MNR spokesman said the two were freed on September 17 to tell the Mozambican authorities that the remaining 22 would also be let go "immediately (when) Maputo accepts the political conditions already given to it."

The spokesman refused to give details of the conditions, which he said were "confidential." He added that the Soviet hostages were well, and in a secure MNR base.

The MNR took their prisoners on August 21 in an attack on the gem mines of Morrua, in the northern Province of Zambezia. Two other Russians were killed in the raid.

16 Captured 'Bandits' Presented to Journalists

MB251229 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] A total of 16 armed bandits were presented to national journalists at Magul locality, Macia district, in Gaza Province yesterday by Lieutenant General Sebastiao Mabote, chief of general staff of the Mozambique Armed Forces. The meeting, which initially it was thought would be attended by journalists only, was also attended by hundreds of residents of the region, who spontaneously flocked to the area demanding the execution of the bandits.

During the interviews conducted by the journalists, the armed bandits captured by our forces confirmed that a great part of them were trained in South Africa and infiltrated into our country. [Maputo in English to Southern Africa at 1100 GMT on 25 September 83 carries a similar report, which adds the following: "The prisoners confirmed that several of the group had been trained in South Africa. One prisoner told reporters that the base where he had been staying was supplied twice a week by helicopters which made night landings at 9:00 in the evening or midnight and delivered light arms and artillery weapons. Another prisoner said the helicpters sometimes brought sabotage teams to attack the Magude-Chokwe railway line."]

RSA 'Involvement' Confirmed

AB260630 Dakar PANA in English 1800 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Maputo, 25 Sept (AIM/PANA) — Members of the self-styled Mozambique National Resistance, MNR, have confirmed once again the involvement of South Africa in acts of banditry inside Mozambique. A group of 77 [as received] bandits were presented to Mozambican journalists by the chief of staff of the Mozambican Armed Forces (FPLM), Lieutenant General Sebastiao Mabote, at Magul in Gaza Province, yesterday.

Interviewed by the journalists, one of the members of the group, Samuel Mucale, pointed to two of his fellow prisoners, and said that all three had been trained at Bukbakris in the Gazanculo Bantustan in the South African Province of the Transvaal. He said that he had left Mozambique illegally, and that inside South Africa he had been recruited to the MNR by a Portuguese. He said he received military training for three months, specialising in mortars.

I crossed back into Mozambique at Mapulanguene in September of last year, he said, speaking in the Tsonga language. There were 50 of us in all and the first thing we did was to burn a bus near Massingur (in Gaza Province) but we always avoided contact with Frelimo troops. He said that he had been captured at Motasse in Magude District, Maputo Province. This is about 150 kilometres north of the Mozambican capital.

Another bandit, Feliciano Elasse, said that he had taken part in banditry in the Province of Inhambane. He had joined the MNR in 1982, and had been trained for six months. "Our job was to destroy things", he said. "We attacked shops, or communal villages, and we ambushed some scattered groups of Frelimo soldiers". Elasse said that his group had attacked and set fire to four buses in Inhambane. The buses were full of passengers.

The MNR base from which Elasse was operating was supplied by South African helicopters. They came twice a week, he said, and invariably landed at night, bringing artillery pieces and light weapons. Another bandit, Ruben Mhnhich, confirmed the use of South African helicopters to supply MNR bases. "Sometimes they also brought men with material to attack the railway between Magud and Chukwe", he said. This is part of the Limpopo line which links the port of Maputo to Zimbabwe.

Perhaps the most shocking admission made by any of these bandits came from one called Armandu Ngovene. He said that in the course of his career in the MNR he had cut off the breasts of dozens of women. Yesterday's encounter was originally scheduled solely for journalists. But hundreds of local residents appeared, apparently spontaneously, and demanded that the bandits should be executed on the spot. General Mabote refused, saying that they would all stand trial for their crimes.

Further Details

MB260722 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] An armed bandit captured in the Zandamela region of Inhambane Province was presented to the national media in Maputo the day before yesterday. (Carlos Uisse Zandamela), a lieutenant in charge of logistics in a Quizumba base in Inhambane Province, was captured at (Nhanala) after being exposed by the people. He said the (Tompe) base where he was stationed is led by two Boers. The bandit said the Boers requested equipment and other supplies from South Africa. Asked who had promoted him to the rank of lieutenant in the armed bandits, (Carlos Zandamela) said it had been the Boers. Helicopters carrying supplies from South Africa used to go to the base regularly, (Carlos Zandamela) said.

It will be recalled that a group of 16 armed bandits, who were captured or who surrendered to our Armed Forces, were presented to the national media in Magul the day before yesterday.

South African Captured; Sabotage Suspected

MB251129 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] A South African was detained by the border guard troops on 23 August as he was heading toward the city of Maputo carrying a time bomb. According to a military source of our country, the South African, Dion van Rensburg, was captured by our defense forces who were alerted by the people 3 hours after he had entered Mozambique territory. The same source said that everything indicates that Dion van Rensburg was preparing to carry out sabotage actions in Maputo.

Soviet, Other Messages Hail Revolution Day

MB250604 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Messages hailing the day of the Popular Forces for the Liberation of Mozambique [FPLM] and the Mozambique revolution, which is marked today, have begun to arrive in the country from various parts of the world. Messages arrived yesterday from the ministers of defense of the Soviet Union, the GDR, Cuba, the SRV, and the DPRK congratulating Lieutenant General Alberto Joaquim Chipande, minister of defense of our country. Apart from making reference to the 19 years that have followed since the firing of the first shot of the victorious struggle against colonialism in our country, the messages pointed out that the armed forces of the respective countries follow with happiness and esteem the efforts of the Mozambique people in the defense of their national independence and sovereignty.

A number of other messages referring to 25 September were received yesterday addressed to Lieutenant General Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, deputy minister of defense and chief of general staff of FPLM.

Delegation Returns From GDR Commission Session

MB231455 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The minister of water development and construction, Julio Carrilho, returned to Maputo this morning from Berlin, where he participated in the sixth session of the joint cooperation commission between Mozambique and the GDR. Julio Carrilho stated that the session reviewed a number of cooperation projects in the fields of agriculture, industry, construction, foreign trade, transportation, and others.

The two countries accordingly established measures to enable them to more efficiently develop the big 120,000-hectare agricultural project which covers the central region of our country. The water development and construction minister said that the Mozambique-GDR joint commission pledged to produce Shiriko radios and lamps, as well as to continue work at the Mocuba textile factory.

In the field of construction, the two countries also agreed to obtain construction materials for houses being built in Maputo, Tete, and Beira with GDR assistance. In the field of foreign trade, the Mozambique-GDR joint cooperation commission agreed on mechanisms for trade exchanges, the amounts and volume of imports and exports. On this, Minister Julio Carrilho stressed the particular attention paid to the prospect of ensuring products to stimulate agricultural marketing.

The sixth session of the joint cooperation commission ended in Berlin the day before yesterday with the signing of a protocol in these fields. The Mozambique delegation, led by Julio Carrilho, included the deputy foreign trade minister, Daniel Gabriel, as well as cadres connected with agriculture, industry, construction, and other fields.

Netherlands Aid Delegation Departs After Talks

MB251233 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Holland's aid to Mozambique in the coming year will go substantially to the emergency water supply for the capital, Maputo, whose residents and industry have been severely hit by the current drought in southern Africa. Priorities in the sending of $3.5 million worth of aid was decided during discussions in Maputo betweeen officials of the Mozambique Government and a visiting Dutch delegation.

The biggest share in the current program will go to the water supply project, and allocations were also made for various schemes in Maputo and Beira. These schemes will assist the preventive health campaign already in progress. Holland will also help in the supply of medical and school equipment in support of the national [name indistinct] institute.

The visiting Dutch delegation left Mozambique yesterday after touring several schemes which have benefited from Dutch financing. One of these is the road bridge over the River Pungoe, which was blown up by South African saboteurs 2 years ago and is now being rebuilt by a firm from Holland.

President Samora Machel will be making his first visit to Holland next month as part of a European tour, which will also take him to Belgium, France, Portugal, and Britain.

Irrigation Project Land Opened for Crops

MB260813 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Constrution Enterprise of Cabo Delgado yesterday handed over 1,000 hectares of the Neguri irrigation project to the agriculture enterprise 2 years ahead of schedule. Some 600 hectares are designed for rice production and the ramaining 400 for crops suitable for dry weather conditions. At the moment 200 hectares are covered with rice with average production ranging from 4-5 tons per hectare.

The ceremony was presided over by Lieutenant General Alberto Chipande, leader of Cabo Delgado Province, who was accompanied by Julio Carrilho, minister of public works and housing, and Joao Ferreira, minister of agriculture. The three leaders sowed the first rice seeds in a 50-hectare area as a way of hailing the 50th anniversary of the birth of President Samora Machel.

In a mass rally held after the ceremony, the leader of Cabo Delgado Province stressed the importance of the Neguri irrigation project in the economic struggle, saying it represents the determination of the Mozambique people to overcome underdevelopment. Lt Gen Alberto Chipande hailed the role of the Korean experts who took part in the construction of the irrigation project together with the Mozambique workers. The leader of Cabo Delgado Province also dealt with the importance of 25 September, National Unity Day, the role of parents in patriotic education, and the origin and nature of the armed bandits.

SOUTH AFRICA

Squatters Clash With Police Near Cape Town

MB231108 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1000 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] There have been violent clashes at the Crossroads Squatter Camp near Cape Town. Fighting erupted this morning during the daily demolition raid by administration board officials and police. Here is Beatty Hofmeyer.

[Hofmeyer] For the first time in 3 weeks of raids the squatters resisted. A large crowd gathered at the site of the demolition. Police used teargas and dogs to disperse the crowd. When the board officials starting tearing down shelters, fighting broke out. Police are now using a sneeze machine. The crowd has started stoning and fighting with police officers. Groups of ululating women are returning to their sites as soon as the sneeze machine has driven passed.

Calm Restored

MB231630 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1628 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Excerpts] Cape Town, Sept 23, SAPA — Rioting broke out at Crossroads today as angry women resisted the demolition of their stick and plastic shelters, but calm was restored by noon, and police vehicles started to move out of the area. About 200 riot police fired tear-smoke canisters and rubber riot bullets into the crowd earlier, and sped up and down Lansdowne Road in two vehicles carrying sneeze-machines spraying tear smoke.

Two people were treated at the Crossroads Clinic for gashes on their heads, received from thrown tear-smoke canisters, and another two were treated for dog bites on their legs. Stones were hurled at armoured personnel carriers and there were frequent confrontations between Crossroads residents, police and WCAB [Western Cape Administration Board] officials.

Women danced and sang with tears streaming down their faces from the effects of the smoke. Many carried dishes of water to dampen their faces, but the smoke did not stop stonethrowing and angry, violent encounters with police.

Brigadier G.J. Odendal, acting divisional commissioner, said today he visited the Crossroads Camp yesterday and had been shocked at the unhygienic conditions. He said he had told those responsible for the persistent building of illegal structures in the camp that they were liable to prosecution as they were endangering the health of residents and the wider community.

Police have confirmed that a youth has been arrested for allegedly throwing stones. This was the 16th day of demolitions at Crossroads. Tension has been steadily mounting over the past week, with the squatters becoming more defiant, and there have been isolated incidents in the past week of women resisting the destruction of their shelters.

UDF Issues Statement on Ban Order, Constitution

MB231740 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1736 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] Cape Town, Sept 23, SAPA — (News by G. McCool, Mutual Buildings, Harrison Street, Johannesburg) The government had made it clear that no real opposition to its constitutional proposals was to be allowed by banning a meeting of the United Democratic Front [UDF] scheduled for the weekend, the UDF said in a statement today.

A rally to launch the border branch of the UDF, a multiracial body claiming the support of about 400 organisations, was banned today.

The statement by the Western Cape Executive Committee of the UDF said the banning order "again showed the utter farce of the Nationalist government's new deal." Mr Andrew Boraine, an executive committee member of the organisation, said it was clear that no real opposition to the new constitution was to be allowed. The Nationalists were determined to force the majority of South Africans to accept the new constitution, come what may.

"The UDF would like to reiterate its stand that any constitution or government not based on the will of all the people of South Africa is not acceptable," Mr Boraine said. The UDF rejected the new constitution for what it really was — an attempt by the government to give apartheid a more acceptable face.

"We will never accept the tearing down of shelters at Crossroads and KTC, nor the continued persecution and victimisation of people seeking work and housing. We will never accept the banning of the South African Allied Workers Union, and the continued atrocities committed against the people of East London and Mdantsane by South Africa's proxy, the Ciskei Government," said the statement.

A "peoples weekend" would be observed by the UDF on October 30 and 31 (the eve of the November 2 referendum for whites), to demonstrate its rejection of the new constitution. Mr Boraine added that the UDF "would call on all freedom loving people inSouth Africa to voice their rejection of the new constitution and to reaffirm their determination to control their own destiny."

The UDF was launched on a national level in Cape Town on August 20, essentially to oppose the new constitution and bills initiated by the minister of cooperation and development, Dr Piet Koornhof, controlling the movement of blacks in urban areas.

Roman Catholic Bishops Reject New Constitution

MB260728 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] The Roman Catholic Church has attacked the government's proposed new constitution, saying the reform failed in regard to justice, truth, love, and freedom. A pastoral letter from the country's Roman Catholic bishops, read out in every Roman Catholic church yesterday, said it failed morally because the constitution disregarded blacks, who made up more than two-thirds of South Africa's 27 million people. The letter said the new constitution was an affront to the people concerned and insured that racial discrimination would continue.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Concludes Western Tour, Returns to Country

Affirms No Israeli Ties

MB231842 Harare Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 23 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, accompanied by Zimbabwe's permanent representative at the United Nations, Comrade (Aleck Machinenzi), was today expected to visit Harvard University and address the law school there.

Addressing newsmen in New York yesterday, Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe will never establish relations with Zionist Israel. He said it is regrettable that some countries are renewing ties with Israel because that Jewish state is in real alignment with the racist South Africa.

Criticizes Western Press

MB240853 Harare Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has criticized the Western press for trying to blind the world to Zimbabwe's noble objectives and achievements. In a speech at Harvard University and New York [as heard] yesterday, Comrade Mugabe said the Western press begins from the assumption: If it is not Western, it must be Eastern, and if it is Eastern, then it must be evil. He said they appear first to see failure, instability, and economic chaos in any former colony which seeks to define its destiny in a manner which is not British, French, Portuguese, or American. The prime minister said that Zimbabwe is cognizant of its political and economic restraints as a young nation, while at the same time it is committed to the destiny it has charted for itself.

Further Harvard Remarks

MB240855 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 24 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, says the infrastructure of international trade is at the moment geared such that export commodities of developing countries, mostly raw materials, serve the interest and economies of the developed world. In a speech at Harvard University, Comrade Mugabe described military expenditure by developed nations as another constraint to socioeconomic development. He explained that developing countries are not asking for handouts but are, rather, seeking more equitable terms of trade to enhance export earnings, establish favorable balance of payments equilibrium, and attract as well as enhance investments.

The prime minister reiterated that his party and government have chosen to be guided by socialism, fully convinced that it is only socialist principles that can yield Zimbabwe greater morality, democracy, and better lives, and conditions for the eradication of inequality. Comrade Mugabe added that the predicament of Zimbabwe is the predicament of the Third World.

Assails UK Government

MB251303 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, has accused the British Government of trying to pressure the Zimbabwean Government into releasing the detained air force officers. Comrade Mugabe told newsmen on his return from a 3-nation tour, which took him to the Republic of Ireland, Canada, and the United States, that he is disturbed by the attitude of the British Government toward Zimbabwe.

Noting that Britain wants to intervene whenever a white person is arrested, the prime minister said Zimbabwe will not accept any intervention in its internal affairs from anybody. He said Zimbabwe has overstretched herself in accommodating whites who commit acts of sabotage. The prime minister said some people in Britain had even suggested that aid to Zimbabwe be stopped. He said the government will not be deterred from arresting and detaining saboteurs because the British Government would withdraw its aid and take retaliatory action. Comrade Mugabe stated that if Britain wants to cut off its aid to Zimbabwe, it is welcome, but it should lay its hands off the country if it wants to continue to promote good relations. He said the government was paying millions of dollars in pensions to people who spent most of their time working for the colonial government and Unilateral Declaration of Independence and at the same time going against majority rule.

On his 3-nation tour Comrade Mugabe said discussions with the leaders of Ireland, the Untied States, and Canada on bilateral issues had been fruitful. He said all those three countries expressed readiness to continue giving aid to Zimbabwe as well as other programs of cooperation. In Ottawa a techincal agreement was signed between the Canadian and Zimbabwean Governments. In Washington disagreement emerged with President Ronald Reagan over American and South African insistence on the withdral of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition for Namibia's independence.

Comrade Mugabe also expressed his disapproval of American involvement in Nicaragua.

Further UK Criticism

NC251230 Paris AFP in English 0830 GMT 25 Sep 83

[Text] Harare, Sep 25 (AFP) — Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe today made his harshest attack on Britain, the former colonial power, accusing the Margaret Thatcher government of trying to "intimidate and manipulate" his own government into releasing white airmen detained on sabotage charges. Mr Mugabe, in an airport news conference on his return from a 17-day tour of Ireland, the United States and Canada, accused Britain of intervening with all three governments to try to pressure Zimbabwe on the issue.

The prime minister, whose guerrillas fought the war for black rule that culminated in independence in 1980, hinted that his government might rethink its conciliatory attitude toward resident whites of British extraction if the Thatcher government persisted in its attitude. Whites number about 140,000 in Zimbabwe's population of 7.6 million.

"Does Mrs Thatcher want them in Britain? If so, she should tell us and we will facilitate (their departure) so we don't have problems tomorrow", Mr Mugabe said. Mr Mugabe said his southern African state was grateful for the 134 million dollars in British aid since independence, and for British assistance in training the armed forces.

"But if that aid is given us so that we don't exercise our sovereign right to arrest those we believe to be a security threat, that aid can go", he said. He noted that the detained airmen had been among those who fought for the rebel Ian Smith regime against the nationalist guerrillas — "massacring our people as they bombed our camps" — and that they had "rejected the queen and stood against Britain". "But because we blacks have arrested whites, we have committed a grievous offense", he said.

Six white air force men, including former Deputy Commander Air Vice Marshal Hugh Slatter, were re-arrested under Zimbabwe's draconian emergency powers regulations after they were acquitted August 31 of helping South African agents sabotage 13 warplanes in July 1982. Another officer has been detained without trial on similar allegations. Four of the seven have dual British-Zimbabwean nationality, and the British Government publicly expressed concern at their redetention. Mr Slatter, Air Commodore Philip Pile and Wing Commander Peter Briscoe were released and deported to Britain shortly after Mr Mugabe left on his overseas tour, but the prime minister asserted today that the releases were unconnected with British pressure.

"We regarded some as less culpable than others", he said. "Some were directly linked with the South African agents (who blew up the planes) and guided them. Others (of the accused) were arrested as a result of information from the first group". The four airmen still detained — Wing Commander John Cox and Lieutenants Barrington Lloyd, Neville Weir and Nigel Lewis Walker — "will have to be held for some time", Mr Mugabe said.

He noted that Zimbabwe had been paying pensions for civil servants and military men who served the Smith regime, rather than insisting that Britain "assume its responsibility" in that regard, and warned the Thatcher government "not to provoke us into re-examining our relations".

Radio Truth Reports Conference on Elections

MB260848 (Clandestine) Radio Truth in English to Zimbabwe 0430 GMT 26 Sep 83

[Text] ZANU Muwenji recently held a consultative conference to discuss intimidation in the forthcoming elections. More than 4,000 people, many of them supporters of other parties, attended the conference. During the 2 days of the conference, nearly everydelegate present spoke of the total lack of radio or television timeafforded parties other than ZANU-PF. They also spoke of the very high level of violence and intimidation now taking place. The president of ZANU Muwenji, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole, was forced to make two statements concerning intimidation by ZANU-PF, and we quote: If they use bricks, we will also use bricks. If they use stones, we will also use stones. If they use sticks, we will also use sticks. If they use fists, we will also use fists. If they use iron bars, we will also use iron bars. If they use guns, we will also use guns. We cannot be cowed down by other men — unquote. Mr Sithole also said at one point, quote: If there is armed intimidation by ZANU-PF, we will only meet it with armed intimidation. There is no other way — unquote.

Not one word of the conference or what was said at the conference is reported in the government-controlled press, radio, or television. Radio Truth feels it is very important to hear just what the democratic parties and leaders think and say, and for this reason we will publish more extracts from time to time from this conference.